○月×日
　他山君は断じて就手にされない。サッカー選手にも、野球選手にもなれない。
　ときどきわけのわからない嘘しいことを言ってる。
　私には、それが正しいのかどうかもわからない。
　それでも「すごい友だちァ」と思うことがある。
　不思議なことだ。
（可奈の日記より）

カバーデザイン／福島健司

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

Q.E.D.

……証明終了……

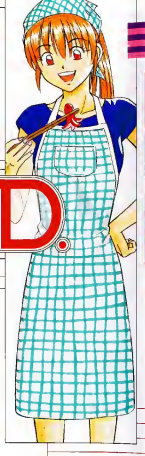
Quod Erat Demonstrandum

加藤元浩

Motohiro Katou

18

KCGM938



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Q.E.D.
……証明終了……
18

Kana Mizuhara

加藤元浩
MOTOHIRO KATOU

講談社

MOTOHIRO KATOU PRESENTS

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名探偵「達」登場!

3羽の鳥

Erat

18

Demonstrandum

MONTHLY SHONEN MAGAZINE COMICS

ロケットマン1～8

○月×日
燈馬君は断じて歌手になれない。サッカー選手にも、野球選手にもなれない。
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Q.E.D.

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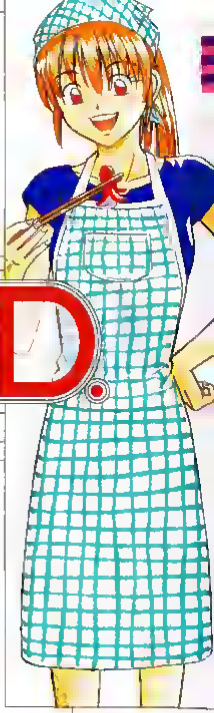


カバーデザイン　朝倉健司

我々は

斯くの如くして先の命題を

そうせよと初めの折に請われし侭に

証明せり

Q.E.D. 証明終了

18

加藤元浩
MOTOHIRO KATOU

contents

名探偵“達”登場！・・・5

3羽の鳥・・・101

CHARACTERS

燈馬のクラスメイト。刑事を父に持つ。男勝りの行動力と、脳天気なまでの明るさがウリの、健康優良女子高生。

マサチューセッツ工科大学を15歳にして卒業、日本の高校に再入学した超天才児。多方面に豊富な知識を有する反面、人間の感情には疎い。

証明終了

SHERLOCK HOLMES
ARRIVAL OF THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE(S)!

THAT HORRENDOUS INCIDENT,
JR
JR東日本
渋谷駅
SHIBUYA STATION
花ざかり
NO ONE TOLD US THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO GO THROUGH THAT KIND OF THING.

カラオケ
スタジオ
IT ALL STARTED WHEN WE WENT TO A KARAOKE STUDIO.

A USUAL SCENE,
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT TOUMA-KUN WAS THERE.
OF COURSE IT WAS ONLY BECAUSE I PRACTICALLY BEGGED HIM TO COME.

*

HE SHOULD BE HAVING FUN AND SINGING ALL THE WAY WITH THE OTHERS,
THAT DAY WAS HIS FIRST TIME GOING TO A PLACE LIKE KARAOKE.
?
?
WHAT'S MORE, HE DIDN'T KNOW ANY SONGS AT ALL.
HE JUST FLAT OUT REFUSED IT.
BUT THIS IDIOT ...
HE FINALLY AGREED TO SING AN ENKA SONG EVEN THOUGH HE DIDN'T FULLY REMEMBER THE LYRICS.
AND AFTER I PERSUA-DED HIM...
WE WERE ALL SPELLBOUND...

AT HOW TONE DEAF HE WAS!!
BUT NOT SO LONG BEFORE THEY WERE PETRIFIED IN THE END.
EVERYONE JUST LAUGHED AT HIM AT FIRST...
HIS VOICE HAS ALREADY PASSED THE LEVEL OF "INTERESTING".
IT'S AN UNDERSTATEMENT TO BE CALLED FOR HAVING THE SAME POWER AS MEDUSA!

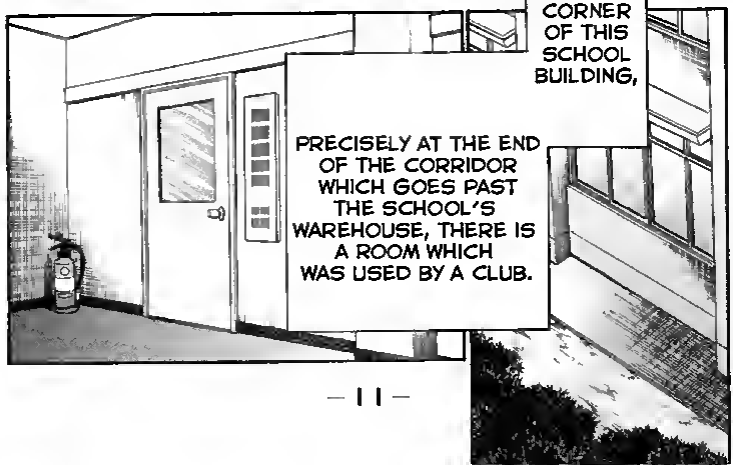
AFTER HE FINISHED, WHAT HE SAID, TERRIFIED ME TO NO END.
BUT THE TRAGEDY DIDN'T END JUST LIKE THAT,

DON'T TELL ME HE WANTS TO SING AGAIN!
I DIDN'T KNOW IT WOULD BE THIS FUN.

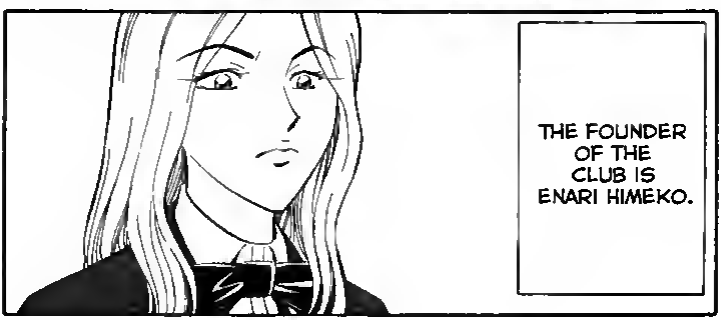
I MUST DO SOMETHING BEFORE THIS TRAGEDY STRIKES AGAIN!
AND SO, I THOUGHT,

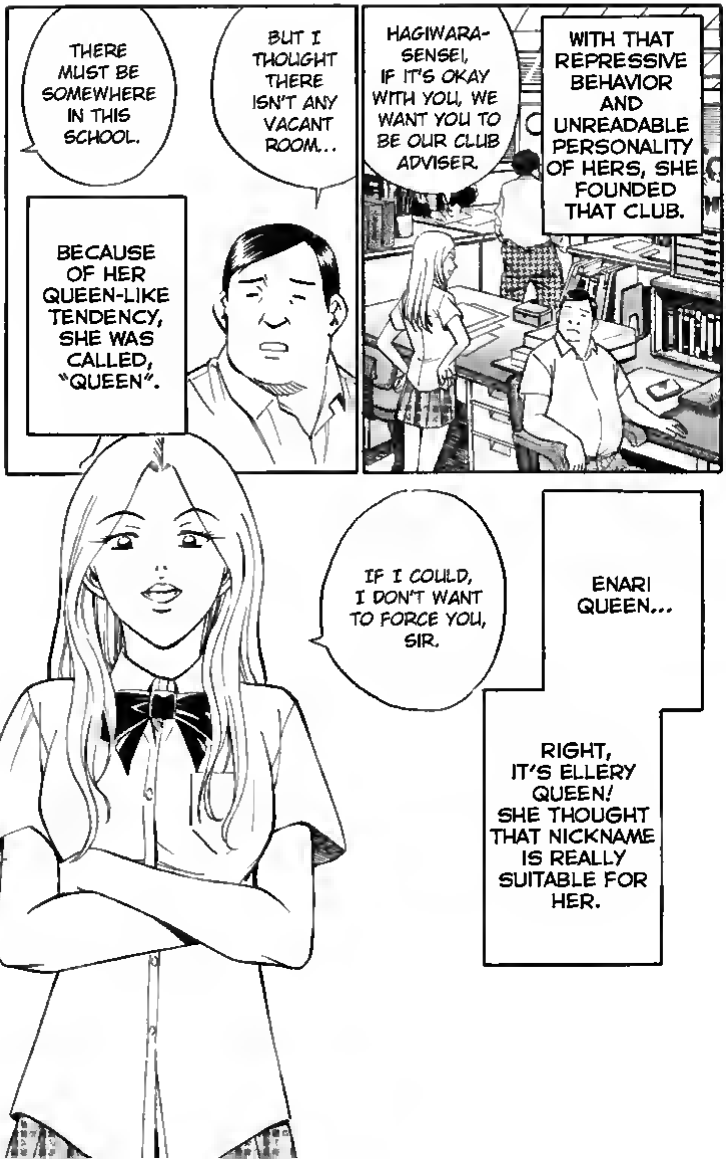
ASIDE FROM THAT PROBLEM, THIS IS WHERE I ENTERED SCHOOL, SAKISAKA PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL.
私咲坂高等学校

しっかりやんのお


AT ONE OF THE CORNER OF THIS SCHOOL BUILDING,
PRECISELY AT THE END OF THE CORRIDOR WHICH GOES PAST THE SCHOOL'S WAREHOUSE, THERE IS A ROOM WHICH WAS USED BY A CLUB.

採偵同好会
よろず事件承り難
THAT IS, AN ASSOCIATION OF DETECTIVES FROM SAKISAKA PRIVATE HIGH SCHOOL.
OF COURSE, THEY DON'T ACCEPT CASES LIKE AN AFFAIR AND SUCH,
THE THREE MEMBERS ARE DIE-HARD FANS OF DETECTIVE NOVELS.


THE FOUNDER OF THE CLUB IS ENARI HIMEKO.

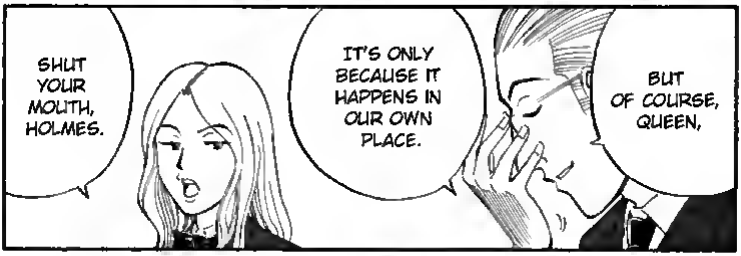

THERE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN THIS SCHOOL.
BUT I THOUGHT THERE ISN'T ANY VACANT ROOM..
BECAUSE OF HER QUEEN-LIKE TENDENCY, SHE WAS CALLED, "QUEEN".
HAGIWARA-SENSEI, IF IT'S OKAY WITH YOU, WE WANT YOU TO BE OUR CLUB ADVISER.
WITH THAT REPRESSIVE BEHAVIOR AND UNREADABLE PERSONALITY OF HERS, SHE FOUNDED THAT CLUB.
IF I COULD, I DON'T WANT TO FORCE YOU, SIR.
ENARI QUEEN...
RIGHT, IT'S ELLERY QUEEN! SHE THOUGHT THAT NICKNAME IS REALLY SUITABLE FOR HER.

THE NEXT MEMBER IS NAGAIE KOROKU, ALSO KNOWN AS HOLMES.
BETWEEN HIS FRIENDS, HE'S KNOWN AS A MANIAC OF DEDUCTION.
EVEN THOUGH HE THOUGHT HE WAS A SPECIALIST OF DEDUCTION MATTERS, HIS FRIENDS KNOW THAT HIS THEORIES WERE SIMPLY LAUGHABLE,
HE FORCED HIS SURNAME, NAGAIE, WHICH MEANS A LOT OF HOUSES ... TO BE HOLMES,
MAYBE THE REASON WHY HIS DEDUCTIONS AREN'T ACCEPTED BY PEOPLE IS ONLY BECAUSE OF HIS ODD PREFERENCES.

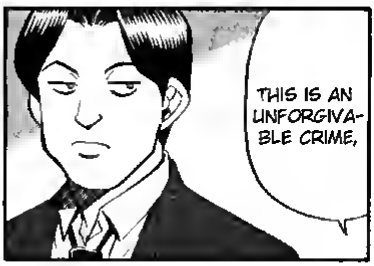
THIS ONE IS MORITA ORISATO.
ANOTHER UNIQUE MANIAC OF DEDUCTION.
HE LIKES TO INTERPRET THINGS MYSTERIOUSLY,
IT WAS ALL BECAUSE OF THE ALIENS,
DON'T YOU UNDERSTAND?
AND HIS LOGIC IS SUPPOSED TO HOP AROUND LIKE RABBITS, MAKING EVERYONE CONFUSED WITH EVERYTHING HE SAYS.
AT THE FRONT COVER OF HIS BOOK THERE IS A LARGELY PRINTED ALPHABET 'X'.
X
PEOPLE DON'T CALL HIM MORITA,
BUT MULDER*.

T/L NOTE : YES, *THAT* MULDER.

EVER SINCE THIS CLUB WAS FOUNDED, THIS IS THE BIGGEST CASE THAT WE HAVE EVER HAD.
MEMBERS,


SHUT YOUR MOUTH, HOLMES.
IT'S ONLY BECAUSE IT HAPPENS IN OUR OWN PLACE.
BUT OF COURSE, QUEEN,

AND IT'S LIKE A CHALLENGE TO US TO SOLVE THIS CASE SPLENDIDLY!


THIS IS AN UNFORGIVA-BLE CRIME,

THE CHEESECAKE WE WERE GOING TO EAT...
WAS ALREADY EATEN BY SOMEONE.
COMPLETELY GONE!
IN A DEDUCTION, EVIDENCE IS UNDENIABLY IMPORTANT.
IF YOU MAY, QUEEN, PLEASE EXPLAIN TO US THE SITUATION UNTIL NOW,
WHAT YOU SAY IS VERY TRUE, MULDER.

I SHOULD APOLOGIZE TO HAGIWARA-SENSEI.
THIS KEY SHOULD BE RETURNED TO TEACHERS' ROOM.
IT SEEMS I...
THIS MORNING
I JUST REALIZED I MISTAKENLY BROUGHT THE CLUB ROOM'S KEY LAST NIGHT.
IN THE MEAN TIME, I PASSED A CAKE SHOP.
THOSE CHEESE-CAKES...

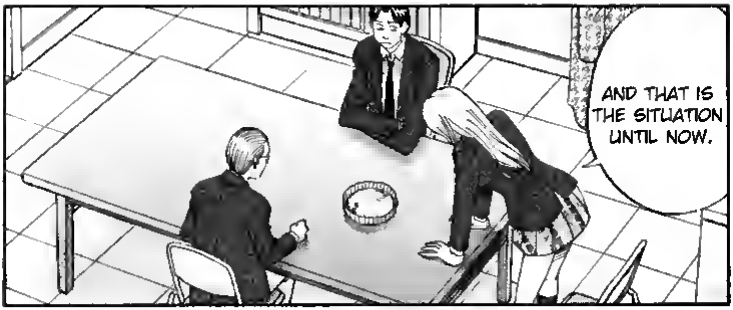
IT WAS THE VERY POPULAR CHEESECAKE! BECAUSE IT ALWAYS SOLD OUT, I HAVE NEVER SUCCEEDED IN BUYING IT.
IT'S NOTHING MUCH.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
SO, I IMMEDIATELY BOUGHT IT!
YEAAA-AHHHH!!
IT IS A CHEESECAKE... WE WILL EAT IT AFTER SCHOOL.
WHAT IS THAT, QUEEN?

I WENT IN TO THE CLUB ROOM WITH THE KEY I BROUGHT.
THEN, I PUT IT IN THE FRIDGE.
AFTER THAT, I INTENDED TO RETURN THE KEY TO TEACHER'S ROOM.
EXCUSE ME, SIR...
YEAH
THEN, AFTER SCHO-OL,
TO GO TO THE CLUB ROOM, I WENT BACK TO TEACHER'S ROOM TO BORROW THE KEY.
HM?

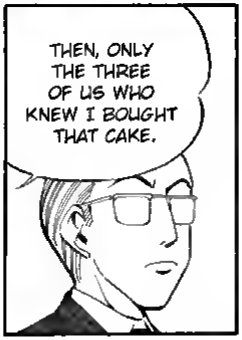
SOMEONE ALREADY BORROWED IT.
EXCUSE ME, SIR, BUT WHERE IS THE KEY?
THAT'S ...
WHO IS IT?
BUT IT'S A BOY'S VOICE.
EXCUSE ME, I WANT TO BORROW THE KEY.
JUST THEN I WAS BUSY MARKING THE TESTS, SO I DIDN'T SEE THE PERSON.
HMM
A BOY'S VOICE... IT SHOULD BE HOLMES OR MULDER

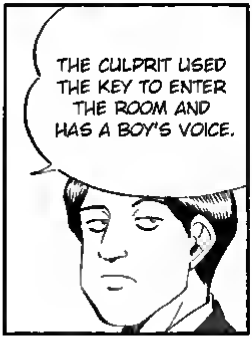
IT ISN'T LOCKED YET THERE ISN'T ANYBODY HERE
HUH?
THEN I WILL EAT IT FIRST...
AAAAHHHH!!!

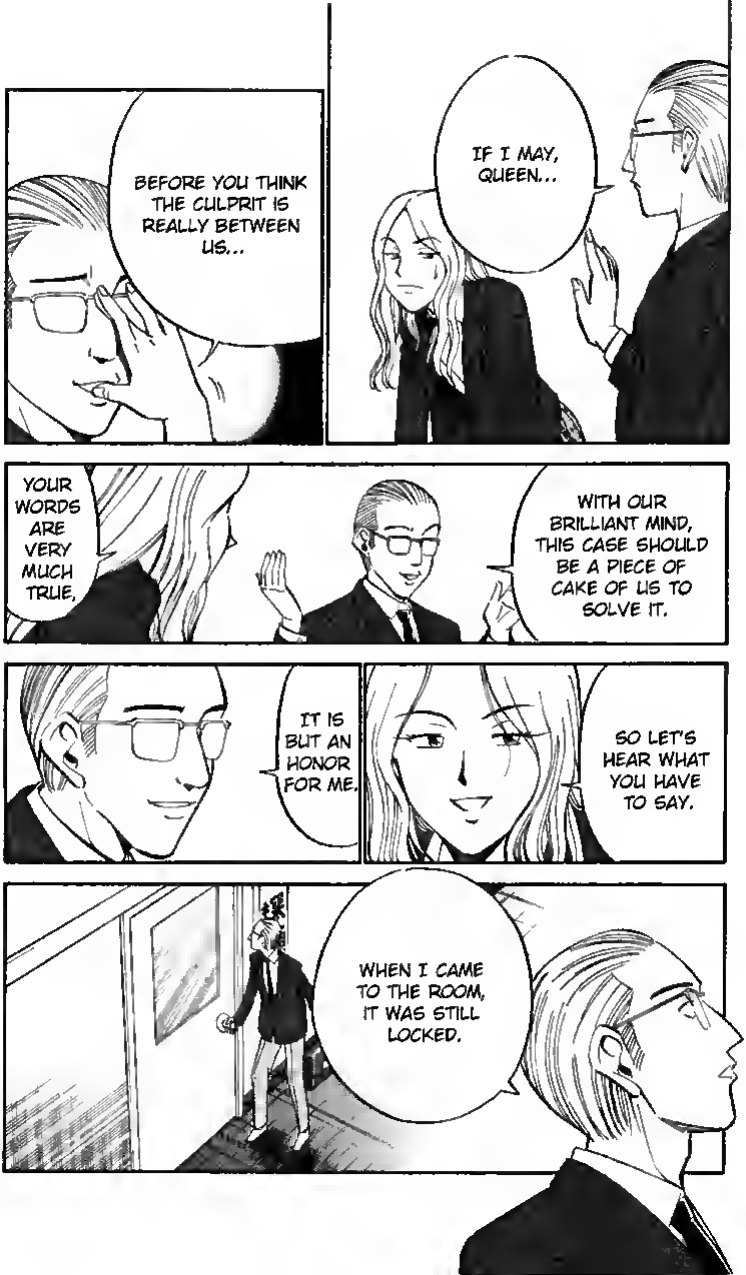
AT THAT TIME, YOU TWO FINALLY CAME...
!!
QUEEN, THE CAKE ...


AND THAT IS THE SITUATION UNTIL NOW.

JUST ADMIT IT! WHICH OF YOU TWO IS THE CULPRIT?


THEN, ONLY THE THREE OF US WHO KNEW I BOUGHT THAT CAKE.


THE CULPRIT USED THE KEY TO ENTER THE ROOM AND HAS A BOY'S VOICE.


BEFORE YOU THINK THE CULPRIT IS REALLY BETWEEN US...
IF I MAY, QUEEN...
YOUR WORDS ARE VERY MUCH TRUE,
WITH OUR BRILLIANT MIND, THIS CASE SHOULD BE A PIECE OF CAKE OF US TO SOLVE IT.
IT IS BUT AN HONOR FOR ME.
SO LET'S HEAR WHAT YOU HAVE TO SAY.
WHEN I CAME TO THE ROOM, IT WAS STILL LOCKED.

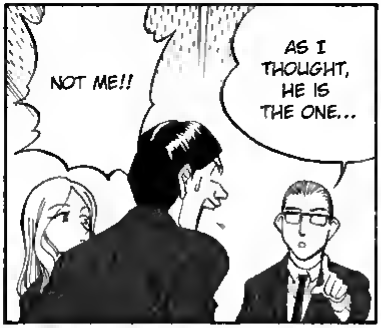
WHAT IS IT, HOLMES?
MULDER.
BECAUSE I THOUGHT MULDER WAS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THE KEY, I SEARCHED FOR HIM.
I DIDN'T, WASN'T IT QUEEN?
WERE YOU THE ONE WHO BROUGHT THE CLUB ROOM'S KEY?
THEN, WE WENT TO THE CLUB ROOM...
THAT MAYBE SO...
AND SAW QUEEN STANDING THERE, LOOKING LIKE SHE WAS READY TO KILL US.

FIRST, THE CULPRIT IS THE ONE WHO OPENED THIS LOCKED ROOM,
NOW, LET ME TRY TO ANALYZE THESE FACTS,
THIRD, I DIDN'T BORROW THE KEY.
THE SECOND IS, SENSEI TOLD US IT WAS A BOY WHO BORROWED THE KEY,
FROM THESE FACTS, WE CAN CONCLUDE THAT MULDER MAY BE THE CULPRIT.
YOU ARE OVER-LOOKING SOME-THING...
FUU
IS THAT TRUE?

WHY DID YOU THINK THE CULPRIT IS HUMAN?
ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY THERE WERE STRAY DOGS OR CATS THAT SNEAKED IN THIS ROOM AND STEAL THE CAKE?
OR IS THERE ANY PARTICULAR BACTERIA THAT HAS DECAYED THE CAKE?
NOT LIKE THAT!!

THAT CAN ENTER THIS ROOM AS FREELY AS IT WANTS?
ARE YOU FORGETTING THE FACT THERE IS AN EXISTENCE OTHER THAN HUMANS THAT CANNOT BE PERCEIVED BY NORMAL THOUGHTS...

OF COURSE NOT.
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE GOING TO SAY IT IS THE ALIENS' FAULT...


NOT ME!!
AS I THOUGHT, HE IS THE ONE...

YOU CAN'T EVER SEE THROUGH THE CONSPIRACY BEHIND THIS TRICK!

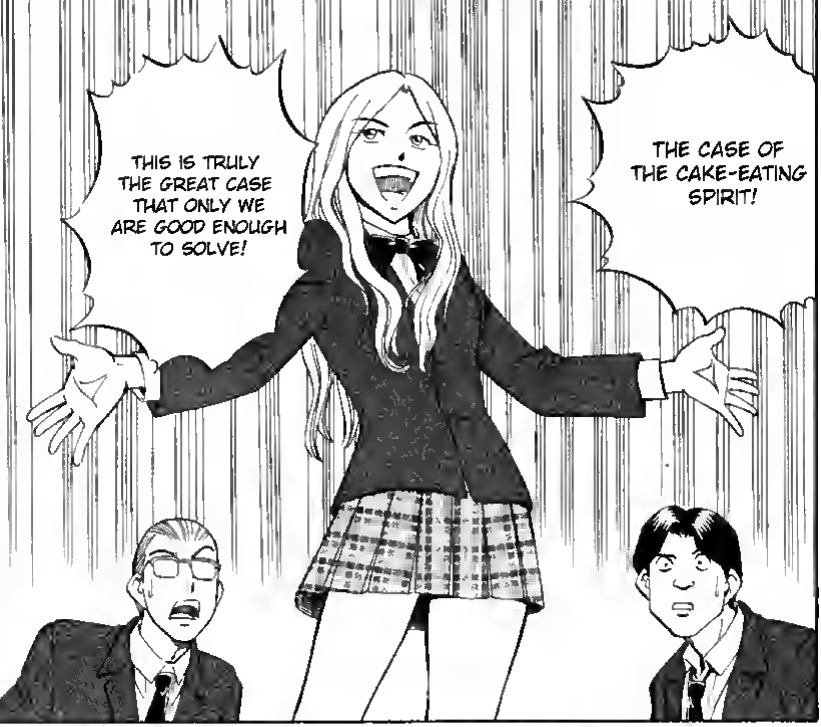
THE CULPRIT IS A GHOST!

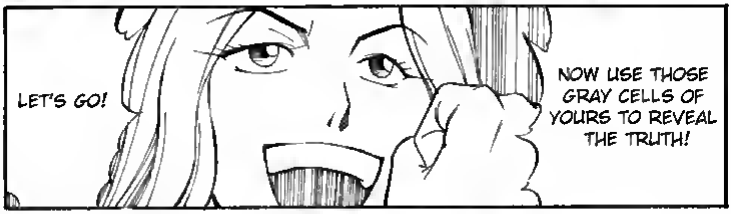
MAYBE YOU DON'T KNOW THIS, BUT RECENTLY THERE IS A STRANGE RUMOR WHICH HAS BEEN TOLD TO THE STUDENTS OF THIS SCHOOL,
EXACTLY AT THE GIRLS RESTROOM IN THE SECOND FLOOR..
女子トイレ
THERE WERE STUDENTS WHO WERE STILL IN THE SCHOOL EVEN WHEN IT WAS TIME TO GO HOME...
HM?
HUH?

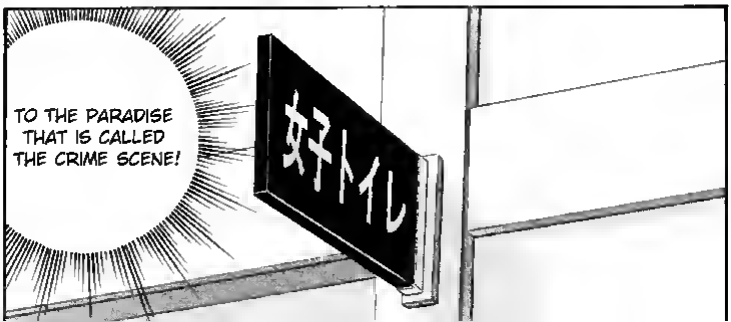
I THINK I HEARD A VOICE?
YOU'RE RIGHT! IT SEEMS LIKE A BOY'S VOICE ...
DON'T TELL ME IT'S A THIEF?
WHO'S THERE?
WA-WAIT! DON'T GO THERE!
キイイ
NO ONE IS HERE...
LET'S SEE HERE

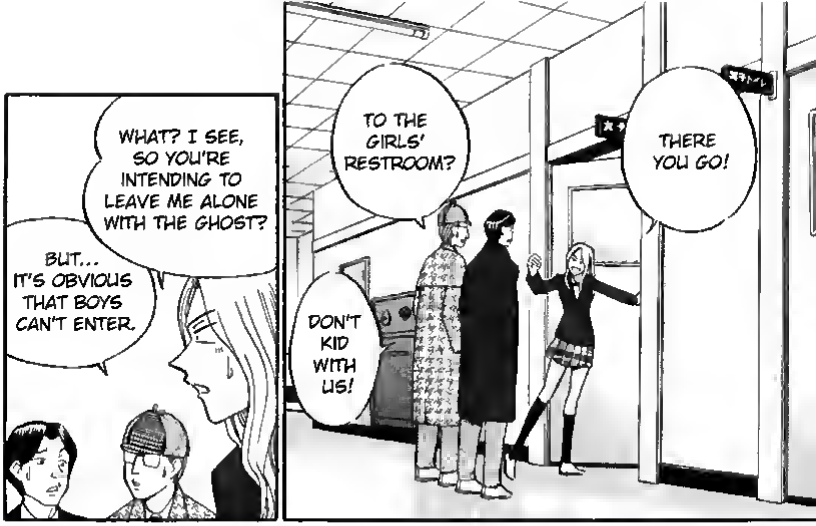
IT'S NOT HERE EITHER...
THIS ONE TOO...
SAME WITH THE NEXT ONE...
THIS IS THE LAST ONE...
KYAAAAAAA!!
IN THAT EMPTY RESTROOM WAS HEARD A BOY'S VOICE.

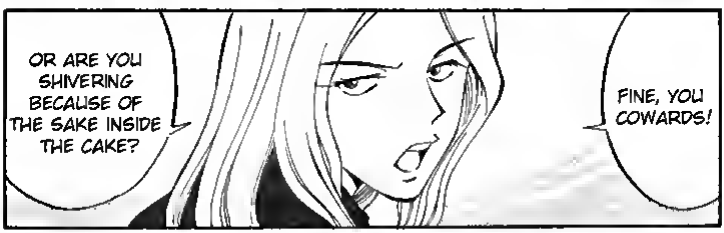
MULDER, YOU'RE TRULY THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN SPEAK SUCH UNSCIENTIFIC THINGS WITH THAT KIND OF SERIOUS EXPRESSION.
THE GHOST WHO ATE THE CHEESECAKE, UNTIL NOW,
IT'S EXISTENCE HAS NEVER BEEN KNOWN BY THEPUBLIC BECAUSE OF THE CONSPIRACY OF THE GOVERNMENT
THEN USE YOUR BRAIN!
I TELL NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH!
LOOK! EVEN QUEEN CAN'T WITHSTAND IT ANYMORE!
OOOHH ...
SINCE THE DAY I FOUNDED THIS CLUB...
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WAITING FOR A GREAT CASE LIKE THIS, LIKE A CHILD WHO WAITS FOR HIS CHIRSTMAS PRESENT.
!?
IT'S PERFECT, MULDER.


THIS IS TRULY THE GREAT CASE THAT ONLY WE ARE GOOD ENOUGH TO SOLVE!
THE CASE OF THE CAKE-EATING SPIRIT!

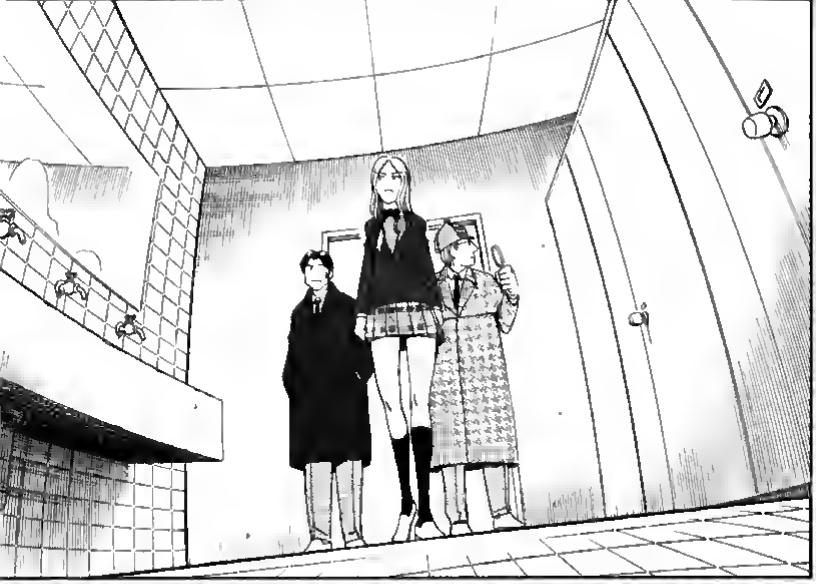

LET'S GO!
NOW USE THOSE GRAY CELLS OF YOURS TO REVEAL THE TRUTH!

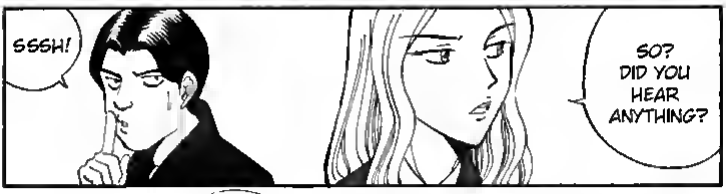

TO THE PARADISE THAT IS CALLED THE CRIME SCENE!
女子トイレ

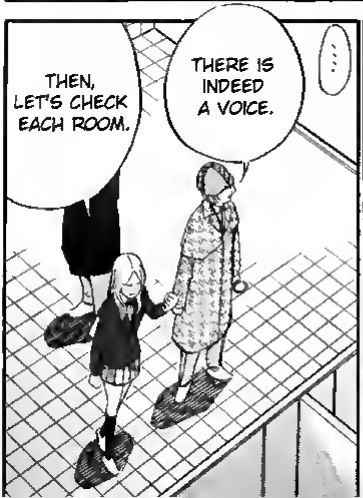

WHAT? I SEE, SO YOU'RE INTENDING TO LEAVE ME ALONE WITH THE GHOST?
BUT... IT'S OBVIOUS THAT BOYS CAN'T ENTER.
TO THE GIRLS' RESTROOM?
DON'T KID WITH US!
THERE YOU GO!

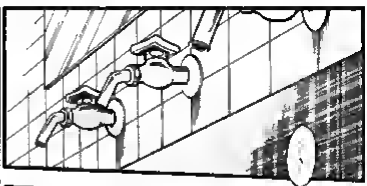

OR ARE YOU SHIVERING BECAUSE OF THE SAKE INSIDE THE CAKE?
FINE, YOU COWARDS!

IF THAT'S SO, THEN GO IN!
I DIDN'T EAT IT!
WHAT?




SSSH!
SO? DID YOU HEAR ANYTHING?


THEN, LET'S CHECK EACH ROOM.
THERE IS INDEED A VOICE.
...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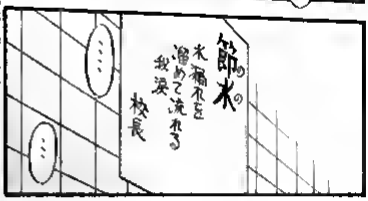
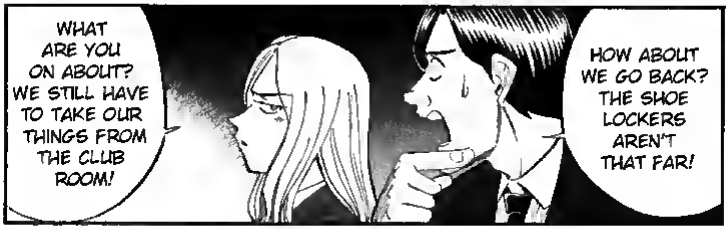

節の水
水栓れを溜めて流れる秋葉校長
...
...

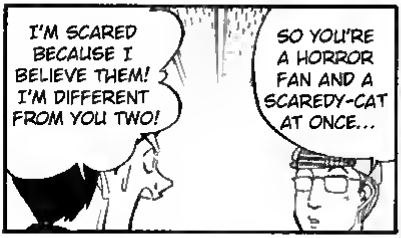
THERE'S NO ONE...
NOT HERE TOO...
SAME HERE...
IT'S NOT THIS ONE ...
LET'S GO!
ピチョ
THIS IS THE LAST ONE.
ドドドド

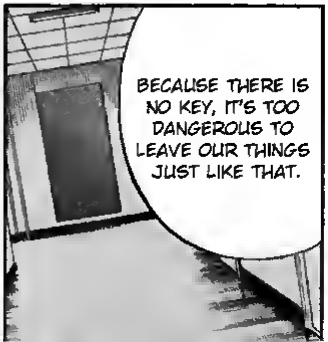
GYAAAAAAAAAA!!!

.....

THEY SHOULD HAVE TOLD US IT WAS THE TIME TO TURN OFF THE ELECTRICITY!
SIGH... THAT REALLY SURPRISED ME.

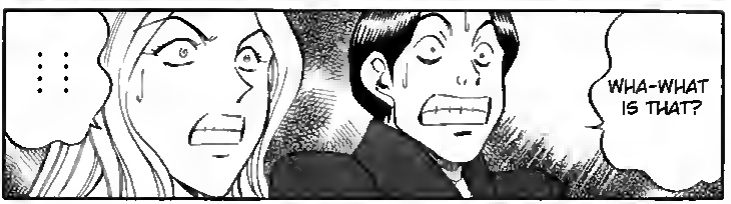

WHAT ARE YOU ON ABOUT? WE STILL HAVE TO TAKE OUR THINGS FROM THE CLUB ROOM!
HOW ABOUT WE GO BACK? THE SHOE LOCKERS AREN'T THAT FAR!


I'M SCARED BECAUSE I BELIEVE THEM! I'M DIFFERENT FROM YOU TWO!
SO YOU'RE A HORROR FAN AND A SCAREDY-CAT AT ONCE...


BECAUSE THERE IS NO KEY, IT'S TOO DANGEROUS TO LEAVE OUR THINGS JUST LIKE THAT.

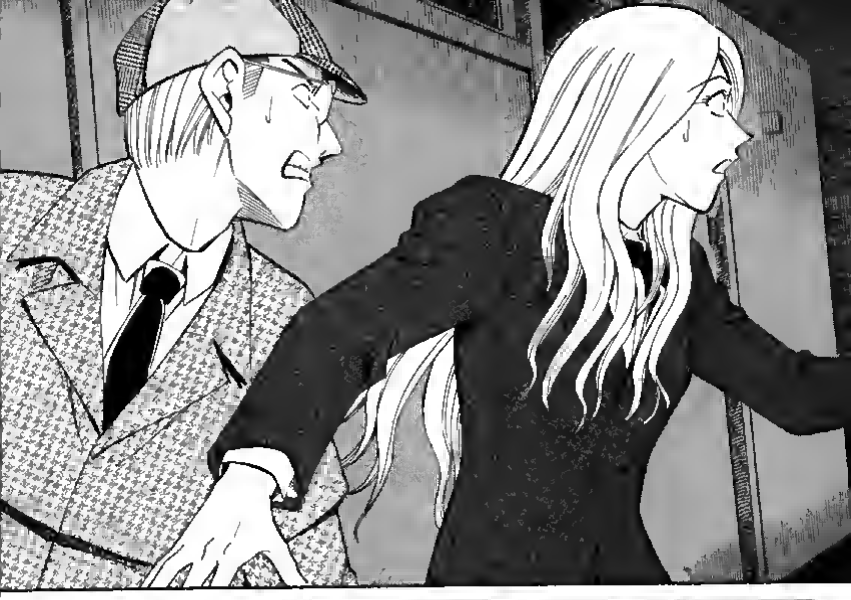
BUT REALLY, WHAT WAS THAT VOICE ACTUALLY?
IT'S EASY, WATSON.
I'VE ALREADY DEDUCED EVERYTHING
HM?
YOU DUMBASS! IT'S CLEARLY A GHO...
BUT, ALL OF US HEARD IT!
SOMEONE WAS APPARENTLY USING A RADIO...
IT'S ONLY OUR IMAGINATION.
THE RESULT OF OUR FEAR.

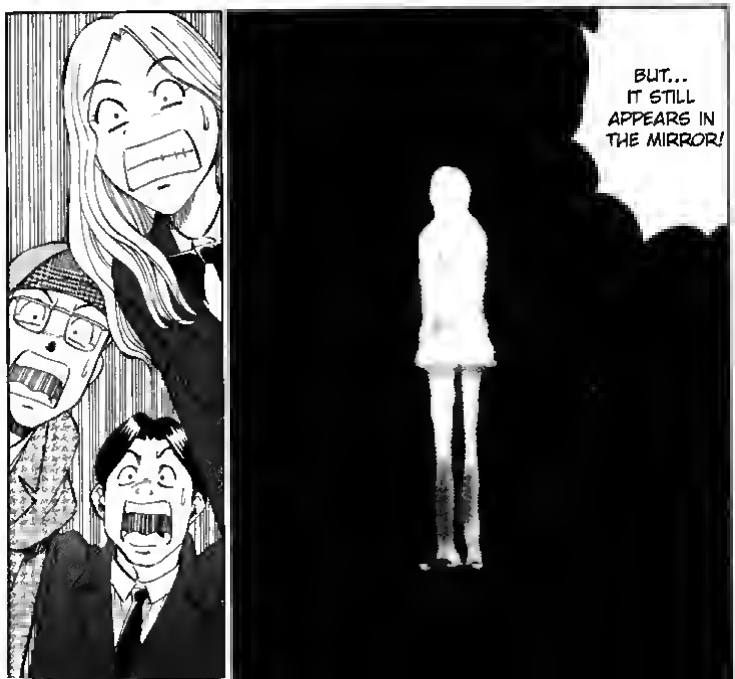
AT THE CORNER INSIDE THE MIRROR...
THERE IS AN ODD SHADOW...

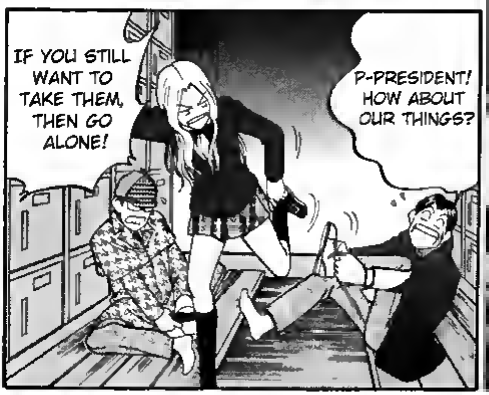

WHA-WHAT IS THAT?

IT LOOKS LIKE A WOMAN...
BUT... WHY IS IT SO HAZY?
I-IS THAT A GHOST?
DON'T EVER SAY SOMETHING SO ILLOGICAL!
THERE MUST BE A WOMAN WHO IS STANDING UP BEHIND US...
AND REFLECTED BY THIS MIRROR...
BUT... WHAT IF IT WASN'T THE CASE?
EVERYTHING SHOULD BE CLEAR ONCE WE TURN BACK!
LET'S TRY IT!
ON THREE ...

THERE'S NO ONE!
!!




BUT...
IT STILL
APPEARS IN
THE MIRROR!


IF YOU STILL WANT TO TAKE THEM, THEN GO ALONE!
P-PRESIDENT! HOW ABOUT OUR THINGS?

KYAAAAAAA!

LET'S GO!

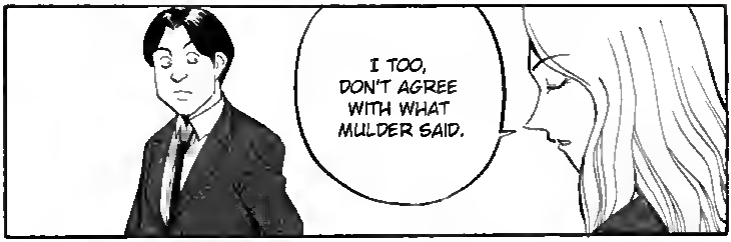
HAVEN'T A CLUE.
WHAT'S WITH THEM?

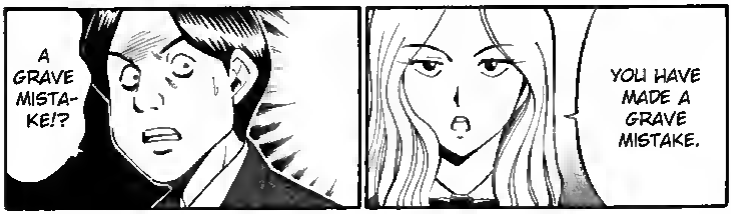
THE DAY AFTER
WHY DID YOU NEGLECT YOUR DUTY OF TAKING CARE OF THE KEY?
職員室
THE KEY FELL DOWN?
A STUDENT JUST RETURNED IT TO ME THIS MORNING!
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT THE KEY WHATEVER THE REASON!

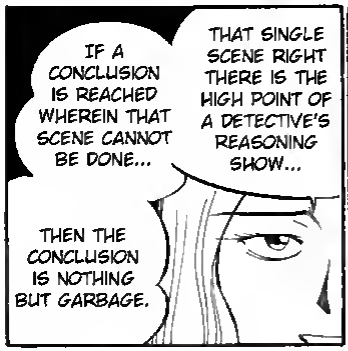
THE MIRROR AT THE END OF THE CORRIDOR IN FIRST FLOOR..
WHERE DID YOU FIND THE KEY?
IT WAS ON THE FLOOR THERE!

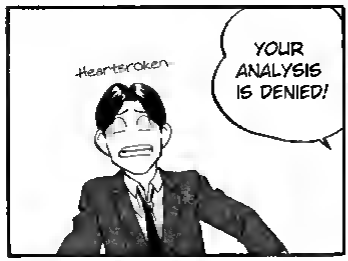
AS I THOUGHT. IT WAS A GHOST!

THE GHOST HAS CAME HERE, TOOK THE KEY FROM THE TEACHERS' ROOM,
GOBBLED THE CAKE UP...
AND DISAPPEARED INTO THE MIRROR.
THE VOICE THAT SENSEI HEARD IS THE SAME WE HEARD IN THE TOILET, IT WAS A BOY'S VOICE.
WITH THIS, IT ALL BECOMES CLEAR!
MULDER, YOUR REASONING IS NOTHING BUT ILLOGICAL.
AND YOUR JUSTIFICATION ABOUT THE EXISTENCE OF THE GHOST IS TOO ABSURD AND UNSCIENTIFIC.
EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE SO SCARED BEFORE!
UKH... IT'S BECAUSE I WAS THINKING ABOUT YOU TWO'S SAFETY, SO I...
WITH THAT TEARY-EYES!?


I TOO, DON'T AGREE WITH WHAT MULDER SAID.


A GRAVE MISTA-KE!?
YOU HAVE MADE A GRAVE MISTAKE.


IF A CONCLUSION IS REACHED WHEREIN THAT SCENE CANNOT BE DONE...
THAT SINGLE SCENE RIGHT THERE IS THE HIGH POINT OF A DETECTIVE'S REASONING SHOW...
THEN THE CONCLUSION IS NOTHING BUT GARBAGE.


Heartbroken
YOUR ANALYSIS IS DENIED!

DO YOU REMEMBER THAT IN EVERY LAST SCENE, THE DETECTIVE ALWAYS SAID, "YOU'RE THE CULPRIT!"?
A GHOST IS NOT A CRIMINAL, SO WE CAN'T DO THAT ...

MAYBE IT WAS AN OUTSIDER WHO ATE THE CAKE?
THAT'S RIGHT!
PLEASE THINK CALMLY.
THE KEY WAS FUOND IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR.
SO, IT'S PROBABLE THAT THERE WAS ANOTHER PERSON BESIDE US THREE.
SO THAT WAS IT...
MAYBE YOUR THEORIES ARE ACCEPTABLE.

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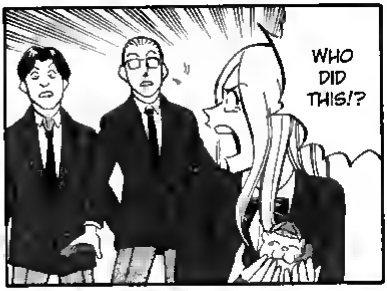
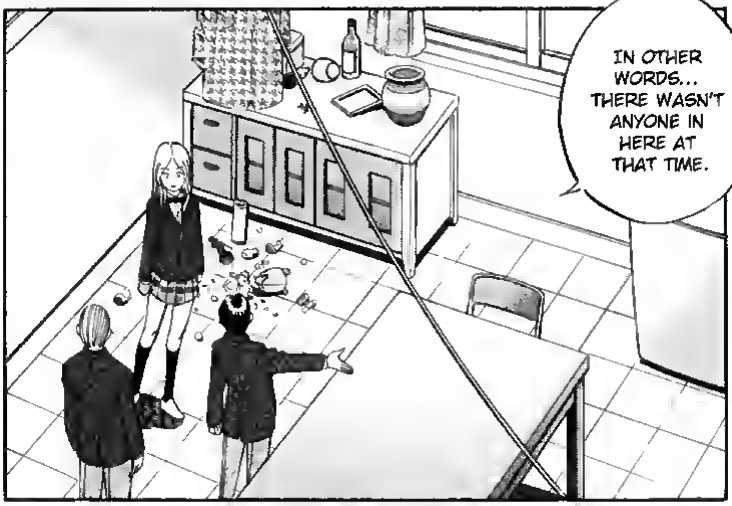
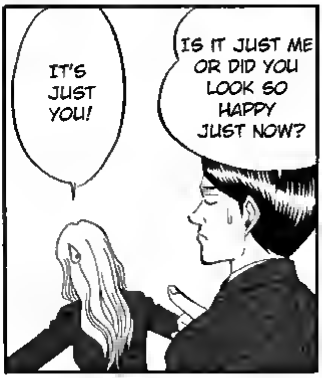
THE NEXT DAY, AFTER SCHOOL
AAH!
WHAT CONNECTS ALL OF THE INCIDENTS TOGETHER?! TO BE CONTINUED...

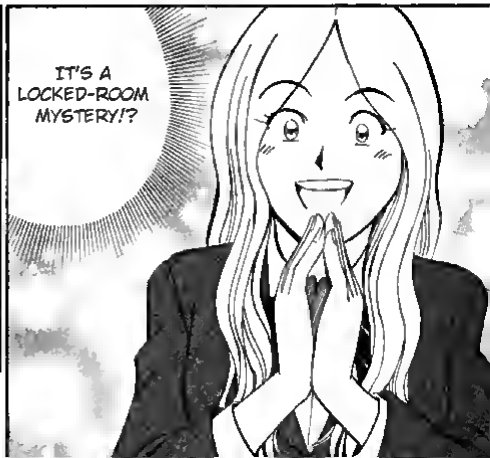
CHAPTER 34.2 : ARRIVAL OF THE FAMOUS DETECTIVE(S)! - PART 2




IN OTHER WORDS... THERE WASN'T ANYONE IN HERE AT THAT TIME.

DON'T TELL ME...
BUT IT WAS SO MESSY IN HERE...


IT'S JUST YOU!
IS IT JUST ME OR DID YOU LOOK SO HAPPY JUST NOW?


IT'S A LOCKED-ROOM MYSTERY!?

WAIT, EVERYONE!
WITH THIS, I ALREADY KNOW THE CULPRIT!
NO, ACTUALLY, I HAD UNDERSTOOD IT FROM THE VERY FIRST TIME!
BUT I KEPT QUIET TO LOOK FOR MORE EVIDENCE.
IF ONLY I DIDN'T WASTE MY TIME, THIS TRAGEDY WOULD HAVE NOT HAPPENED RIGHT NOW...
SO THE LIAR SAID.
SO WHO DID THIS?
OUR ADVISORY TEACHER, HAGIWARA-SENSEI.
WHY IS IT?
...

HE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO GETS TO KEEP THE KEY,
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO BE AN OUTSIDER!
PERFECT!
THIS IS A TINY EXAMPLE OF MY SCIENTIFIC THEORY!
WHY DID HE EAT THE CAKE, DISGUISIE AS A GHOST, AND MESS UP THE CLUB ROOM?
WHAT'S THE MOTIVE?
IT MUST BE THE STRESS FROM WORKING, SO HE IS SILENTLY DOING THIS...
COULD I ASK ONE MORE THING?
HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THE WOMAN'S SHADOW IN THE MIRROR?

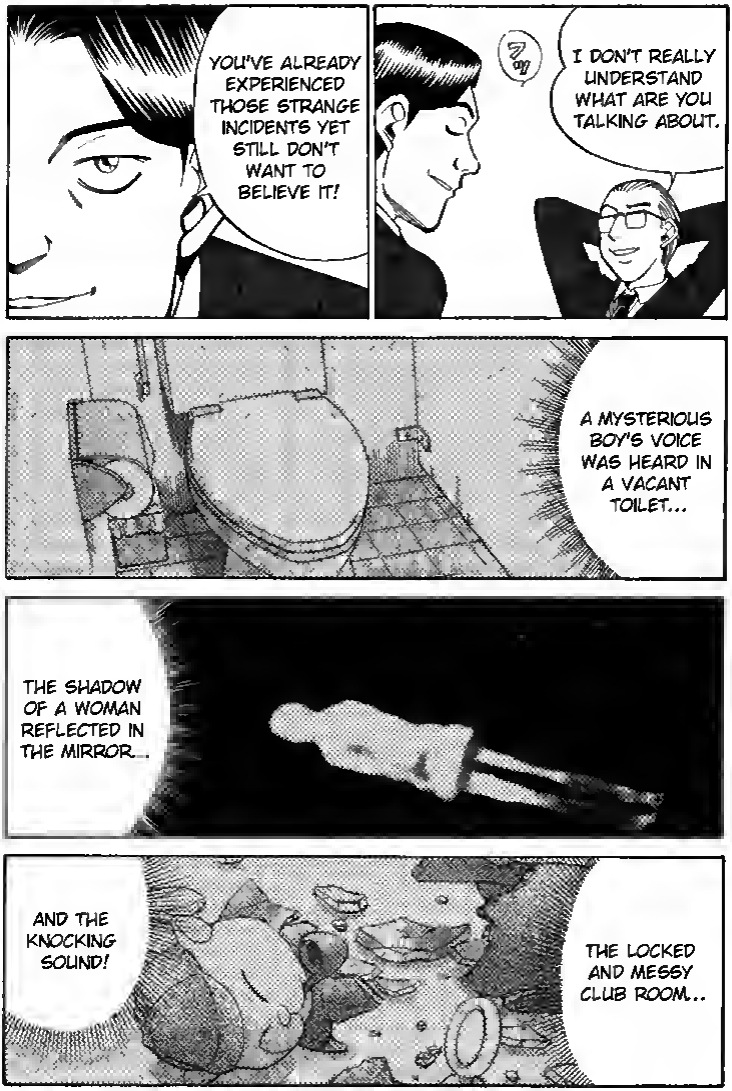
WHAT IS IT?
THIS IS WHERE THE MOST SURPRISING FACT COMES!
MY THEORIES ARE MORE CONVINCING.
AND IT WAS DESTROYED JUST LIKE THAT...
HAGIWARA-SENSEI LIKES TO CROSS-DRESS!
FIRST THING FIRST, WE MUST ANALYZE THAT THEORY!
BUT IT'S TRUE!
DON'T PUT ME AT THE SAME LEVEL AS YOU!
STOP IT! IF THE DETECTIVES WERE TO FIGHT, THAT WOULD ENSUE CHAOS!

YOU SHOULDN'T DO THAT NEXT TIME!
YOU WENT HOME LATE YESTERDAY?
YES, I HAD A CLUB ACTIVITY...
THIS MIGHT BE AN IMPORTANT CLUE!
ACTUALLY, THERE WAS A STRANGE INCIDENT IN THE FIRST FLOOR! DID YOU NOTICE SOME WEIRD THINGS?
FOR EXAMPLE, LIKE A SHINY THING OR BLACK-CLOTHED PEOPLE?
MULDER, YOU MUST NOT DIRECT THE EYE-WITNESS!

ACTUALLY, I WENT BACK TO THE CLASSROOM TO TAKE SOMETHING I LEFT BEHIND...
FROM UNDER ?
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
ゴゴゴ
?
ゴゴゴ
FROM A SPECIFIC DISTANCE I HEARD A KNOCKING SOUND.

A KNOCKING SOUND?
IT'S LIKE SOMEONE WAS NAILING ON THE WALL.
探偵同好会
よろず難事件承り
IS THERE ANY CONNECTION...
BETWEEN THE MYSTERIOUS SOUND AND THIS MESSY CLUB ROOM?

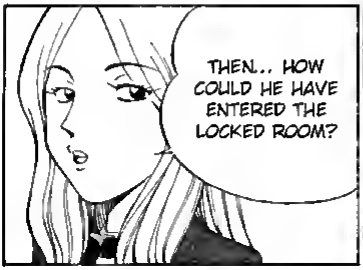
DO YOU KNOW THE HYDESVILLE INCIDENT THAT TOOK PLACE IN 1848 IN THE UNITED STATES?
ONE DAY, THE FOX FAMILY WHO LIVED IN HYDESVILLE, NEW YORK, WAS DISTURBED WITH A MYSTERIOUS KNOCKING SOUND,
NO ONE KNOWS WHERE IT CAME FROM.
BUT, AFTER THEY TRIED TO COMMUNICATE WITH THAT SOUND, IT WAS FINALLY REVEALED THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY A GHOST.
KNOCK KNOCK
IF YOU ARE A GHOST, KNOCK TWICE.
IT TURNED UP THE GHOST WAS A CORPSE THAT WAS HIDDEN IN THAT HOUSE. THE CORPSE ITSELF WAS FINALLY FOUND!
THEREFORE, THE VOICE MUST HAVE COME FROM THE GHOST.


YOU'VE ALREADY EXPERIENCED THOSE STRANGE INCIDENTS YET STILL DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT!
I DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT.
A MYSTERIOUS BOY'S VOICE WAS HEARD IN A VACANT TOILET...
THE SHADOW OF A WOMAN REFLECTED IN THE MIRROR...
AND THE KNOCKING SOUND!
THE LOCKED AND MESSY CLUB ROOM...

IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT MUST BE THE GHOST!
FURTHER-MORE, THE KEY FELL IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR!
IN OTHER WORDS, THE GHOST IS THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE!
HM... AS EXPECTED FROM YOU, MULDER,
ALL OF THESE INCIDENTS CANNOT BE EXPLAINED WITH MERE COMMON SENSE...
BECAUSE THEY ARE A GHOST'S WRONG-DOINGS!
ACTUALLY, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOUR EXPLANATIONS ALL THIS TIME.
BECAUSE I ALREADY KNOW WHO THE CULPRIT IS.

FACTS THAT ARE BUILT UPON SCIENTIFIC THEORIES AND LOGIC...
JUST TELL US DIRECTLY!
THE CULPRIT IS YOU!
AND THE REASON IS?
ACTUALLY, IT IS BECAUSE OF THOSE NONSENSICAL GHOST STORIES, I FINALLY REALIZED SOMETHING,
MULDER'S GHOST THEORY IS THE CLEAR EVIDENCE THAT ALL OF THIS HAS BEEN PERFECTLY SET UP,
THINK ABOUT IT, YOUR GHOST THEORY IS ONLY FOR CONFUSING US,
HE SAID THAT THE CULPRIT IS A GHOST,
WHY, YOU SAY?

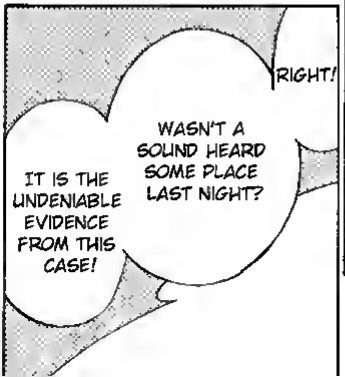
WAIT!
HE IS THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE!
BECAUSE THERE IS A FAR GREATER REASON BEHIND THAT!


THEN... HOW COULD HE HAVE ENTERED THE LOCKED ROOM?

I DIDN'T EAT IT!

A... HOLE??

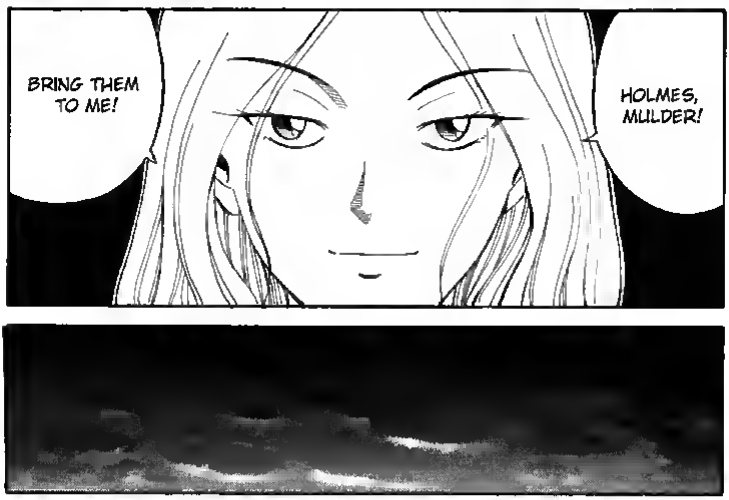
IT IS BUT EASY,
HE ONLY NEEDS TO DIG A HOLE.


RIGHT!
WASN'T A SOUND HEARD SOME PLACE LAST NIGHT?
IT IS THE UNDENIABLE EVIDENCE FROM THIS CASE!

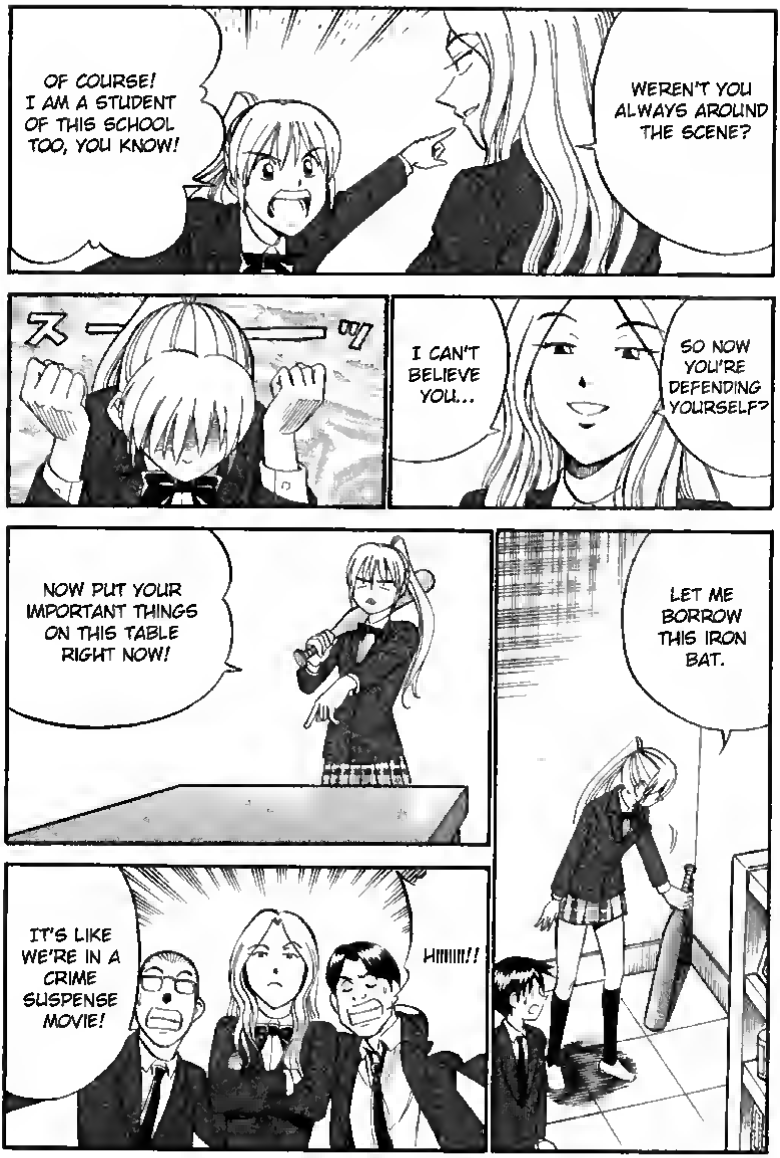
AND AFTER HE FINISHED, HE REPAIRED IT LIKE NEW.
ゴゴゴ
IT WAS THE SOUND OF SOMEONE WHO BROKE THE WALL FOR MAKING A HOLE!
THERE'S NOTHING SIMPLE IN THAT!
IT IS BUT A SIMPLE TRICK.
T-THEN, I WANT TO HEAR QUEEN'S ANALYSIS!
AND DON'T WE NEED SOMETHING LIKE A DRILL TO OPEN UP THE WALL?
DID YOU EVEN SEE THE REMAINS IN THIS SCHOOL?
I CAN'T EVEN DO SOMETHING HEAVY LIKE THAT!

A BOY'S VOICE WE HEARD IN THE TOILET...
MINE?
THE SHADOW OF A WOMAN ...
MY ANALYSIS, RIGHT...
AND BECAUSE THE KEY FELL IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR..
THAT MEANS... THE CULPRIT CAN BE A MAN OR A WOMAN ...
MAYBE THERE ARE OTHER SUSPECTS BESIDE US THREE.

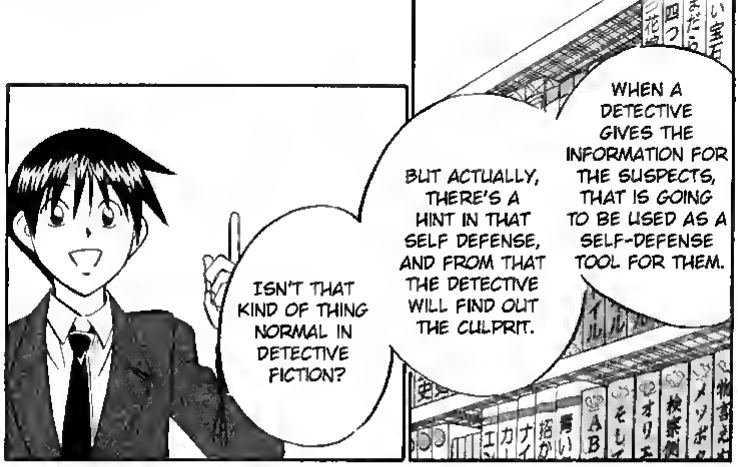
FOR SOMEWHAT REASON, I ALWAYS SAW THE TWO OF THEM AFTER SCHOOL WHEN THE INCIDENT HAPPENED...
ACTUALLY, I'M INTERESTED IN THOSE TWO.

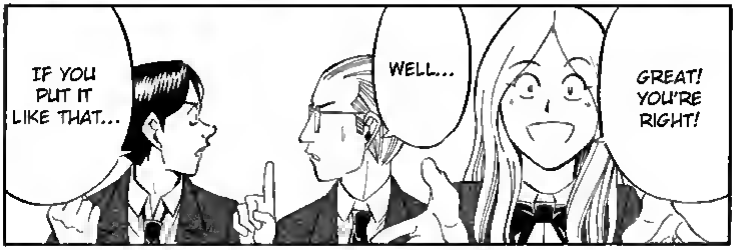

BRING THEM TO ME!
HOLMES, MULDER!

I SEE...
SO... YOU ACCUSE US TO BE THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE, DISGUISED AS A GHOST,
AND MESSED UP THIS ROOM..
AM I RIGHT?

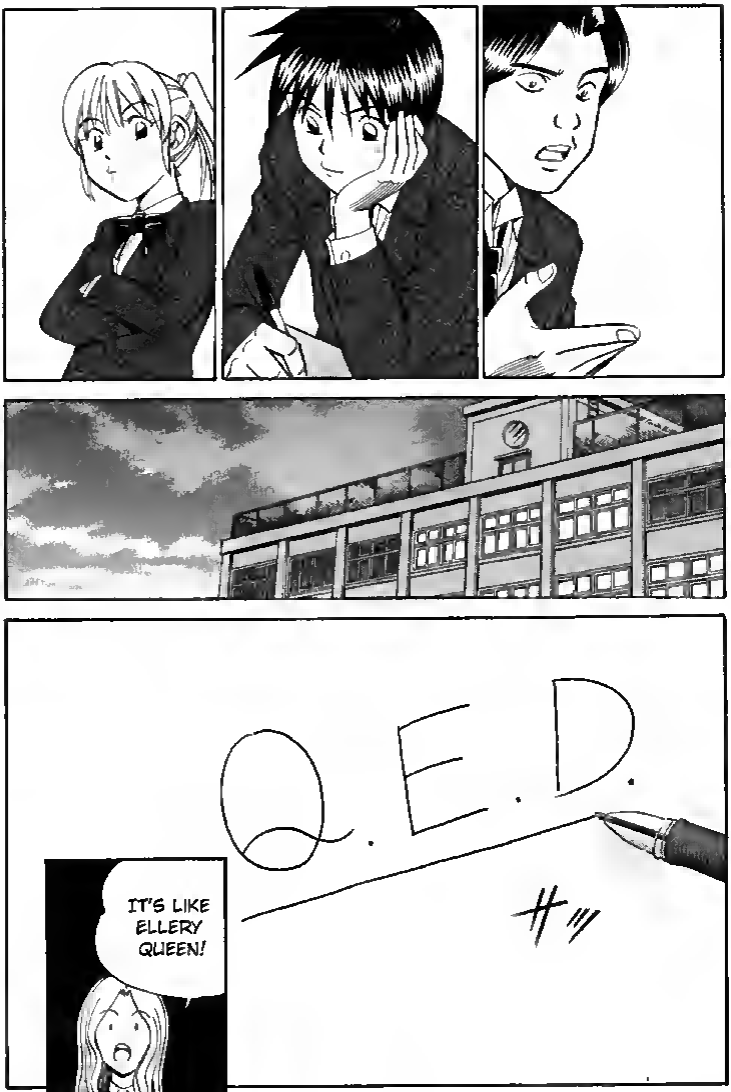

OF COURSE! I AM A STUDENT OF THIS SCHOOL TOO, YOU KNOW!
WEREN'T YOU ALWAYS AROUND THE SCENE?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU...
SO NOW YOU'RE DEFENDING YOURSELF?
NOW PUT YOUR IMPORTANT THINGS ON THIS TABLE RIGHT NOW!
LET ME BORROW THIS IRON BAT.
IT'S LIKE WE'RE IN A CRIME SUSPENSE MOVIE!
HIIIIII!!

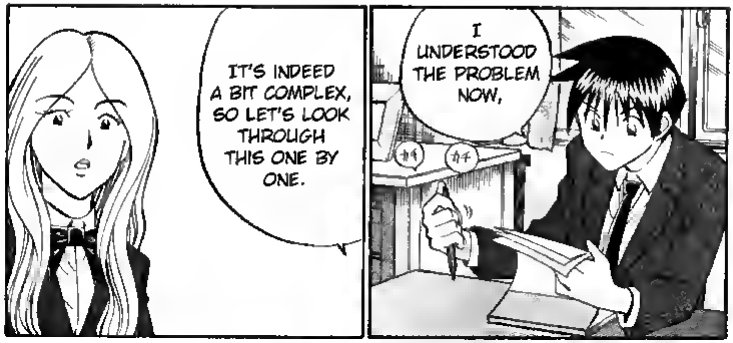
?
WAIT...
IF MIZUHARA-SAN USES THIS WAY, I THINK THIS DISCUSSION WILL NEVER MEET ITS END.
THE RIGHT MANNERS ?
IT'S BETTER IF WE USE THE RIGHT MANNERS.
IF YOU'RE GOING TO SUSPECT US, I THINK WE HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT'S THE REAL REASON.
SAY...
OKAY...
COULD YOU PLEASE TELL US THE DETAILS OF WHAT REALLY HAPPENED IN THIS PLACE?

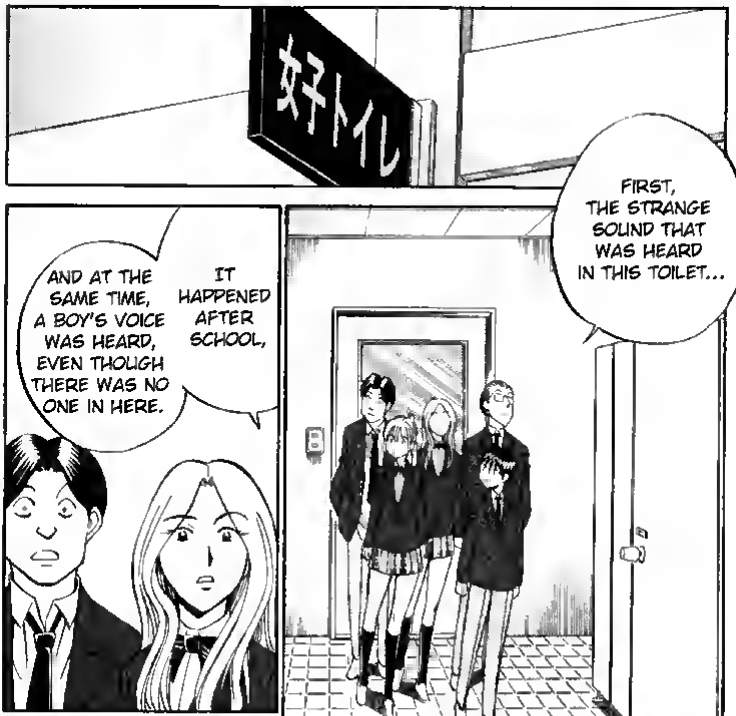

ISN'T THAT KIND OF THING NORMAL IN DETECTIVE FICTION?
BUT ACTUALLY, THERE'S A HINT IN THAT SELF DEFENSE, AND FROM THAT THE DETECTIVE WILL FIND OUT THE CULPRIT.
WHEN A DETECTIVE GIVES THE INFORMATION FOR THE SUSPECTS, THAT IS GOING TO BE USED AS A SELF-DEFENSE TOOL FOR THEM.


IF YOU PUT IT LIKE THAT...
WELL...
GREAT! YOU'RE RIGHT!

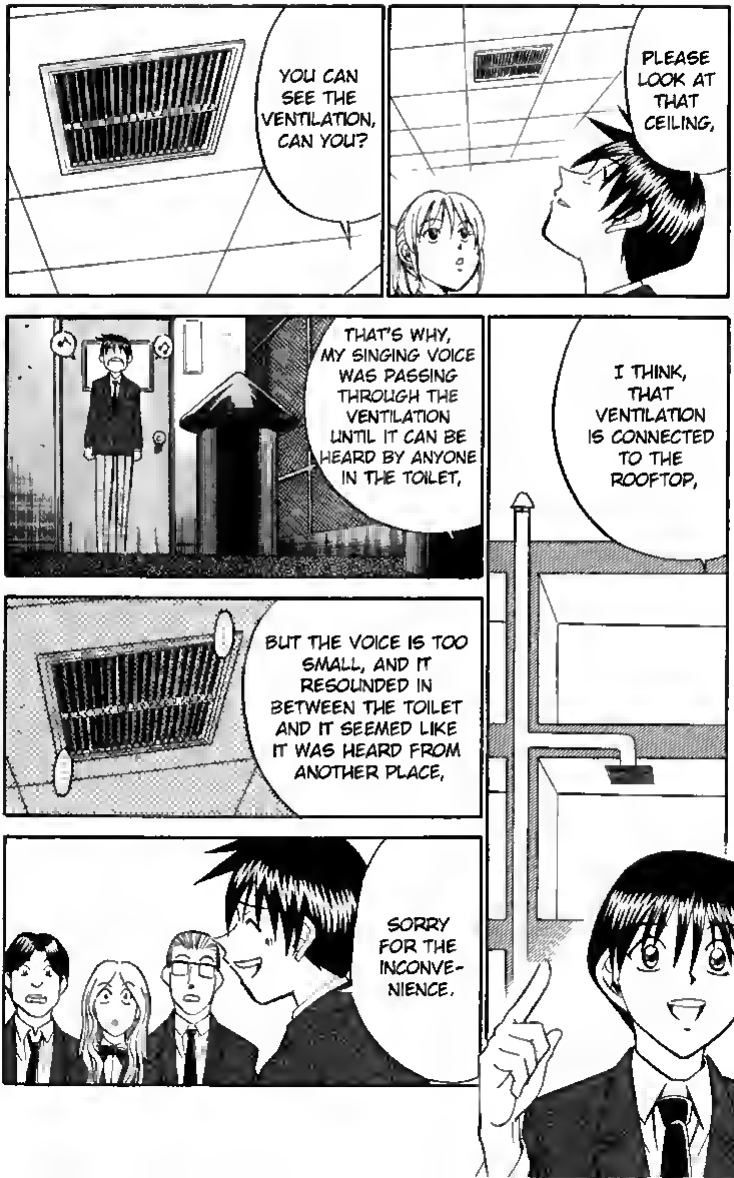
IT ALL STARTED WHEN I WENT HOME WITH THE KEY...


Q.E.D.
IT'S LIKE ELLERY QUEEN!


IT'S INDEED A BIT COMPLEX, SO LET'S LOOK THROUGH THIS ONE BY ONE.
I UNDERSTOOD THE PROBLEM NOW,

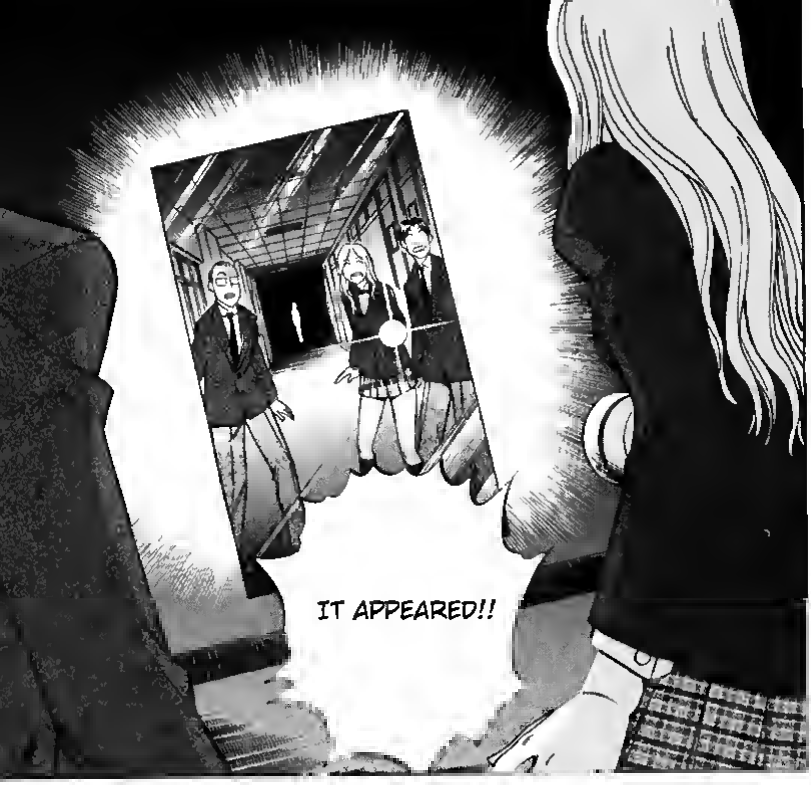

女子トイレ
FIRST, THE STRANGE SOUND THAT WAS HEARD IN THIS TOILET...
IT HAPPENED AFTER SCHOOL,
AND AT THE SAME TIME, A BOY'S VOICE WAS HEARD, EVEN THOUGH THERE WAS NO ONE IN HERE.

IT TURNS OUT I AM THE CULPRIT...
47
QUEEN'S ANALYSIS IS REALLY CORRECT!
HUH!?
I MUST TRAIN MY SINGING ON THE ROOFTOP AFTER SCHOOL.
YOU SAID IT YOURSELF, DIDN'T YOU?
WHY, TOUMA-KUN!?
SO WHAT?


YOU CAN SEE THE VENTILATION, CAN YOU?
PLEASE LOOK AT THAT CEILING,
THAT'S WHY, MY SINGING VOICE WAS PASSING THROUGH THE VENTILATION UNTIL IT CAN BE HEARD BY ANYONE IN THE TOILET,
I THINK, THAT VENTILATION IS CONNECTED TO THE ROOFTOP,
BUT THE VOICE IS TOO SMALL, AND IT RESOUNDED IN BETWEEN THE TOILET AND IT SEEMED LIKE IT WAS HEARD FROM ANOTHER PLACE,
SORRY FOR THE INCONVE-NIENCE.

NEXT IS THE GHOST'S APPEARANCE IN THE MIRROR,
THE CULPRIT IS MIZUHARA-SAN.
QUEEN IS YET AGAIN RIGHT!
ME!??

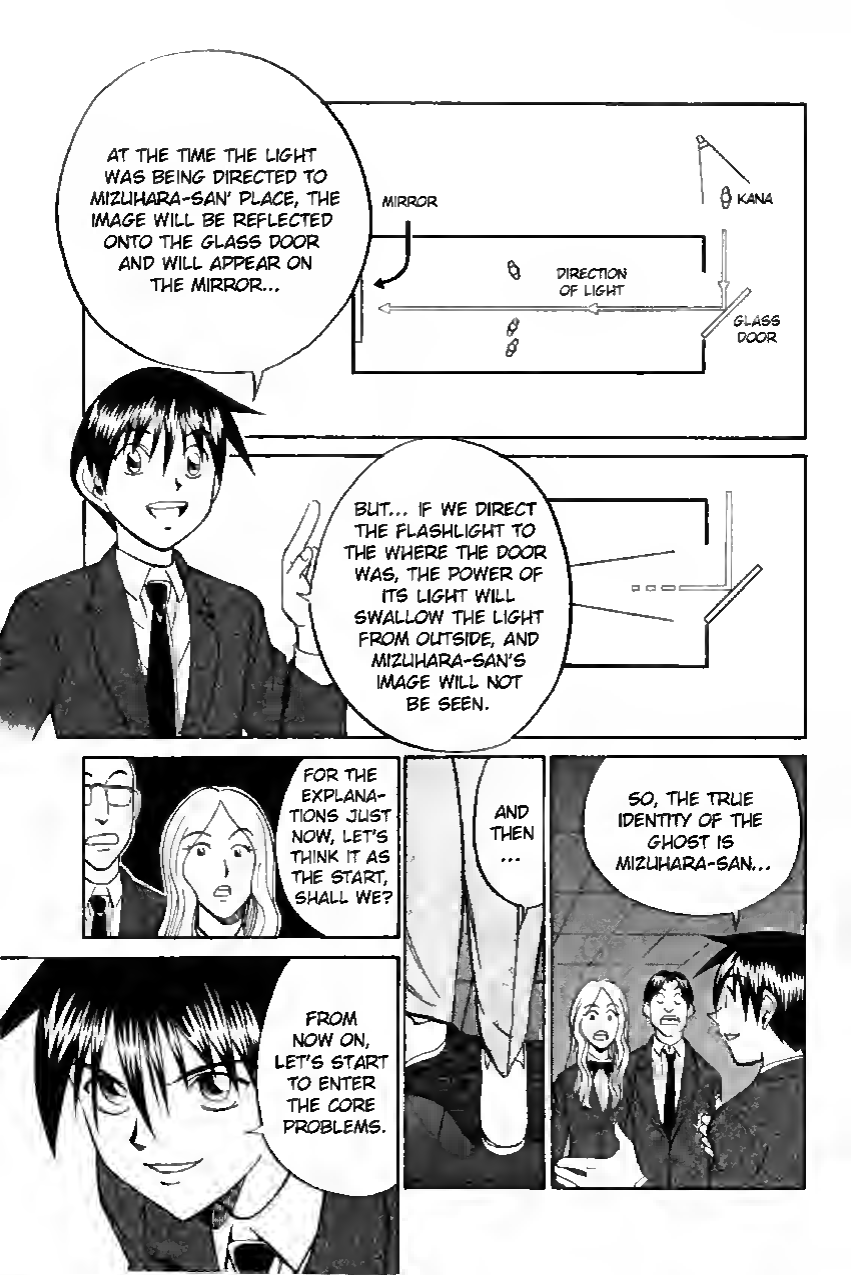
FOR ALL OF YOU, PLEASE JUST WAIT RIGHT HERE.
MIZUHARA-SAN, COULD YOU PLEASE STAND AT THE USUAL PLACE?
PLEASE LOOK AT THE MIRROR.
LIKE THIS?
OOHHH!!
IF THE ANGLE IS RIGHT ...


IT APPEARED!!

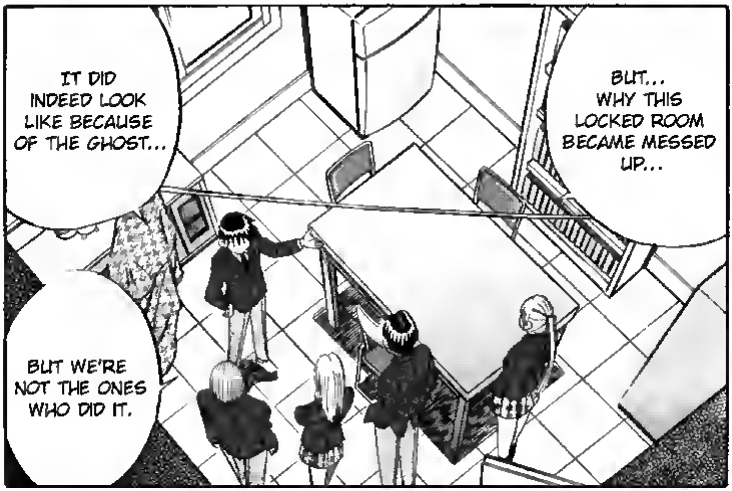
PLEASE AIM THE FLASHLIGHT OVER HERE.

IT'S LIKE THAT TIME!!

... NOTHING'S THERE.
カチ
NEXT, PLEASE TURN OFF THE FLASH-LIGHT.
AH!!
SO IT'S THE REFLECTION!

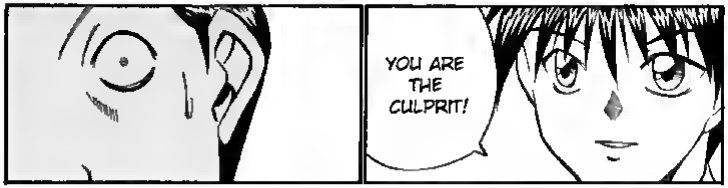

AT THE TIME THE LIGHT WAS BEING DIRECTED TO MIZUHARA-SAN' PLACE, THE IMAGE WILL BE REFLECTED ONTO THE GLASS DOOR AND WILL APPEAR ON THE MIRROR...
MIRROR
KANA
DIRECTION OF LIGHT
GLASS DOOR
BUT... IF WE DIRECT THE FLASHLIGHT TO THE WHERE THE DOOR WAS, THE POWER OF ITS LIGHT WILL SWALLOW THE LIGHT FROM OUTSIDE, AND MIZUHARA-SAN'S IMAGE WILL NOT BE SEEN.
FOR THE EXPLANA-TIONS JUST NOW, LET'S THINK IT AS THE START, SHALL WE?
AND THEN ...
SO, THE TRUE IDENTITY OF THE GHOST IS MIZUHARA-SAN...
FROM NOW ON, LET'S START TO ENTER THE CORE PROBLEMS.

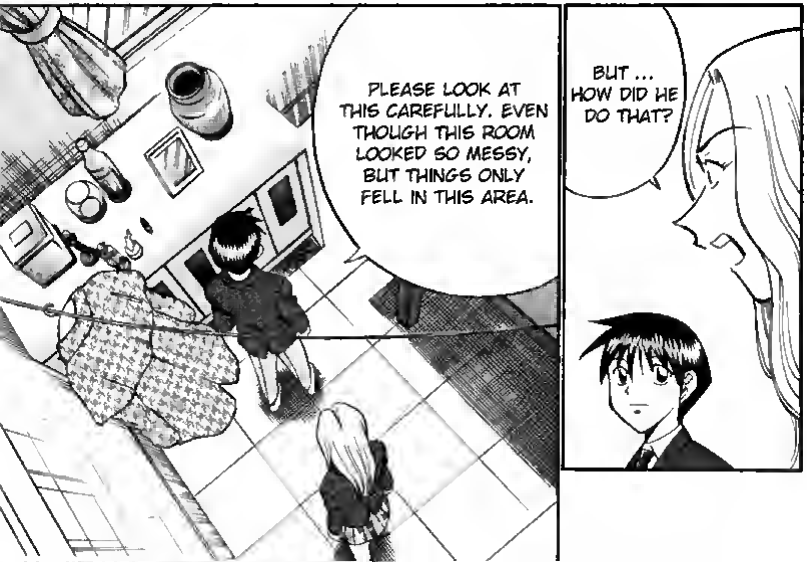
AS WHAT I HAVE EXPLAINED BEFORE, THE GHOST INCIDENTS WERE OUR FAULTS,
OR IT'S BETTER IF WE START TO CALL THOSE AS ACCIDENTS.

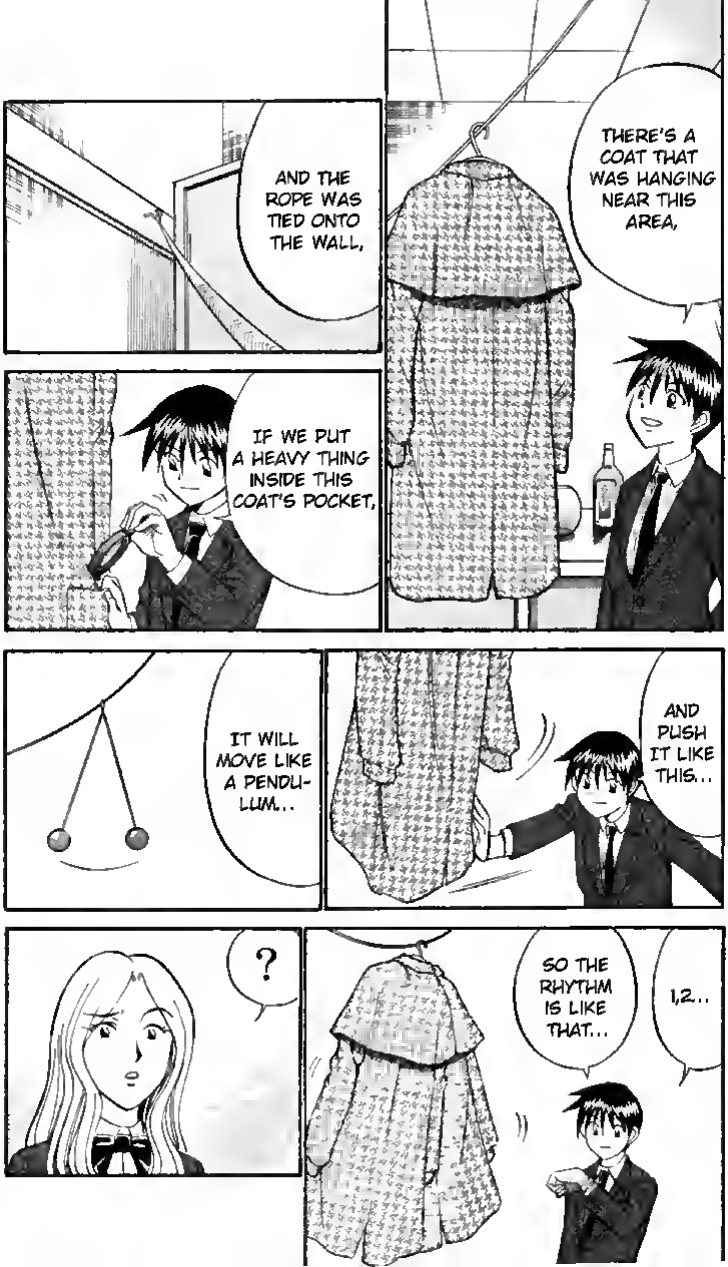

BUT... WHY THIS LOCKED ROOM BECAME MESSED UP...
IT DID INDEED LOOK LIKE BECAUSE OF THE GHOST...
BUT WE'RE NOT THE ONES WHO DID IT.

THEN, WHO DID IT?
THIS CASE HAS BEEN PLANNED SO THOROUGHLY, SO THE CULPRIT WOULD BE SUSPECTED AS GHOST,
IT IS OBVIOUS THE CULPRIT IS THE ONE WHO REALLY INSIST GHOST WAS THE ONE AT FAULT.

THAT IS, MORITA-SENPAI,


YOU ARE THE CULPRIT!


PLEASE LOOK AT THIS CAREFULLY. EVEN THOUGH THIS ROOM LOOKED SO MESSY, BUT THINGS ONLY FELL IN THIS AREA.
BUT ... HOW DID HE DO THAT?


THERE'S A COAT THAT WAS HANGING NEAR THIS AREA,
AND THE ROPE WAS TIED ONTO THE WALL,
IF WE PUT A HEAVY THING INSIDE THIS COAT'S POCKET,
AND PUSH IT LIKE THIS..
IT WILL MOVE LIKE A PENDU-LUM..
1,2..
SO THE RHYTHM IS LIKE THAT...
?

UH...
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS CUPBOARD IS QUITE UNSTEADY, ISN'T IT?
PLEASE LOOK AT THIS,
IF WE HIT THIS PLACE IN TUNE WITH THE RHYTHM JUST NOW...
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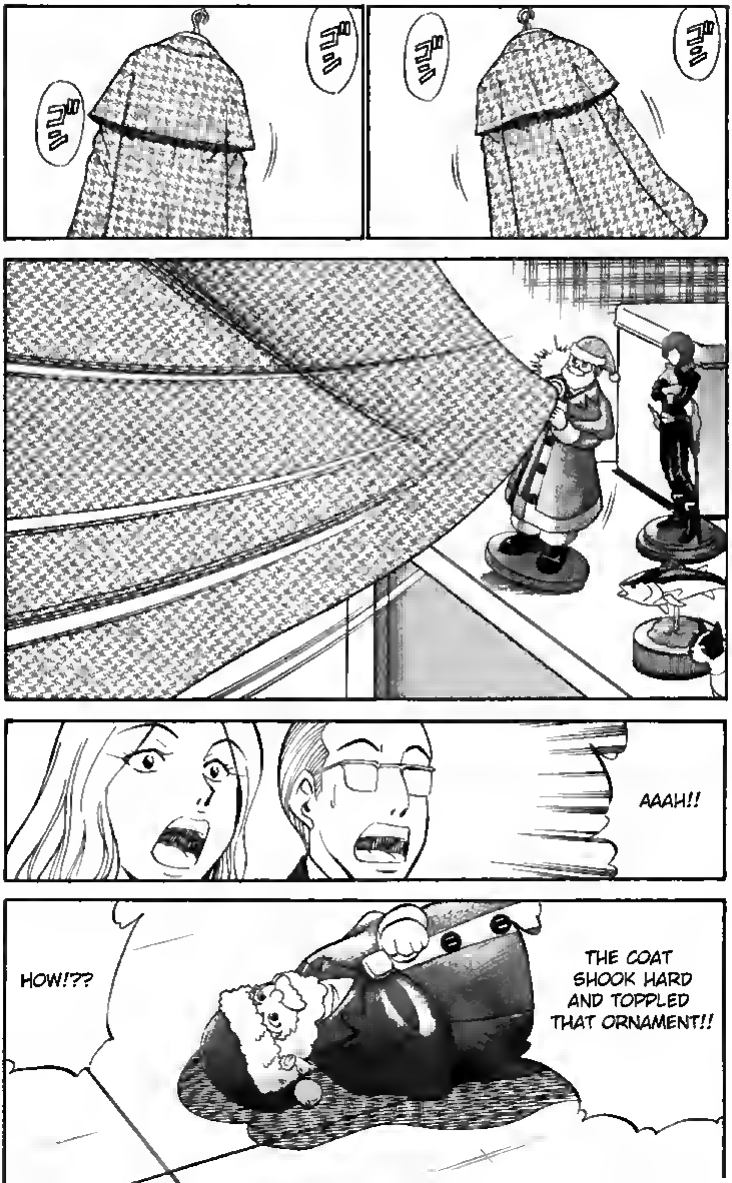
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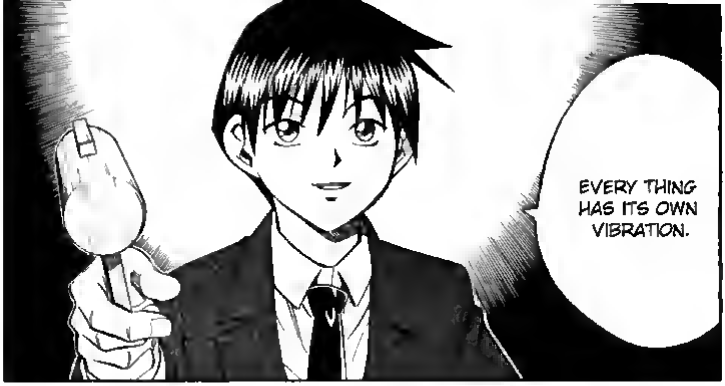
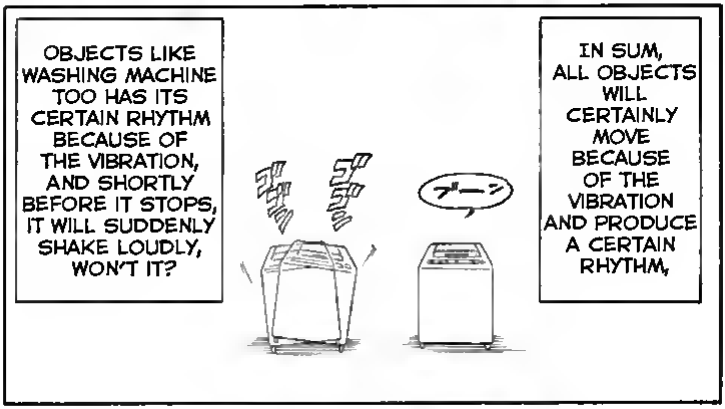
AAAH!!
HOW!??
THE COAT SHOOK HARD AND TOPPLED THAT ORNAMENT!!


EVERY THING HAS ITS OWN VIBRATION.


OBJECTS LIKE WASHING MACHINE TOO HAS ITS CERTAIN RHYTHM BECAUSE OF THE VIBRATION, AND SHORTLY BEFORE IT STOPS, IT WILL SUDDENLY SHAKE LOUDLY, WON'T IT?
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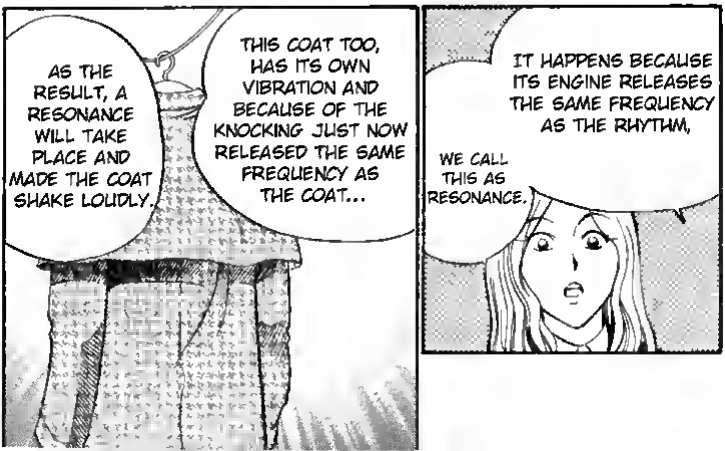
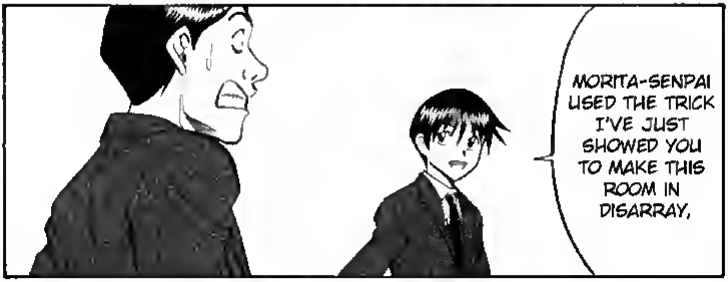
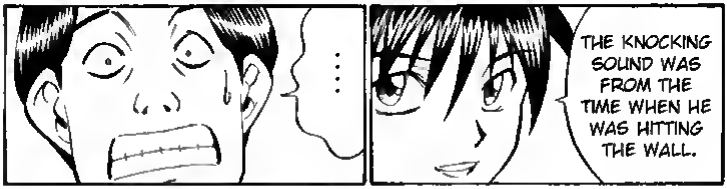
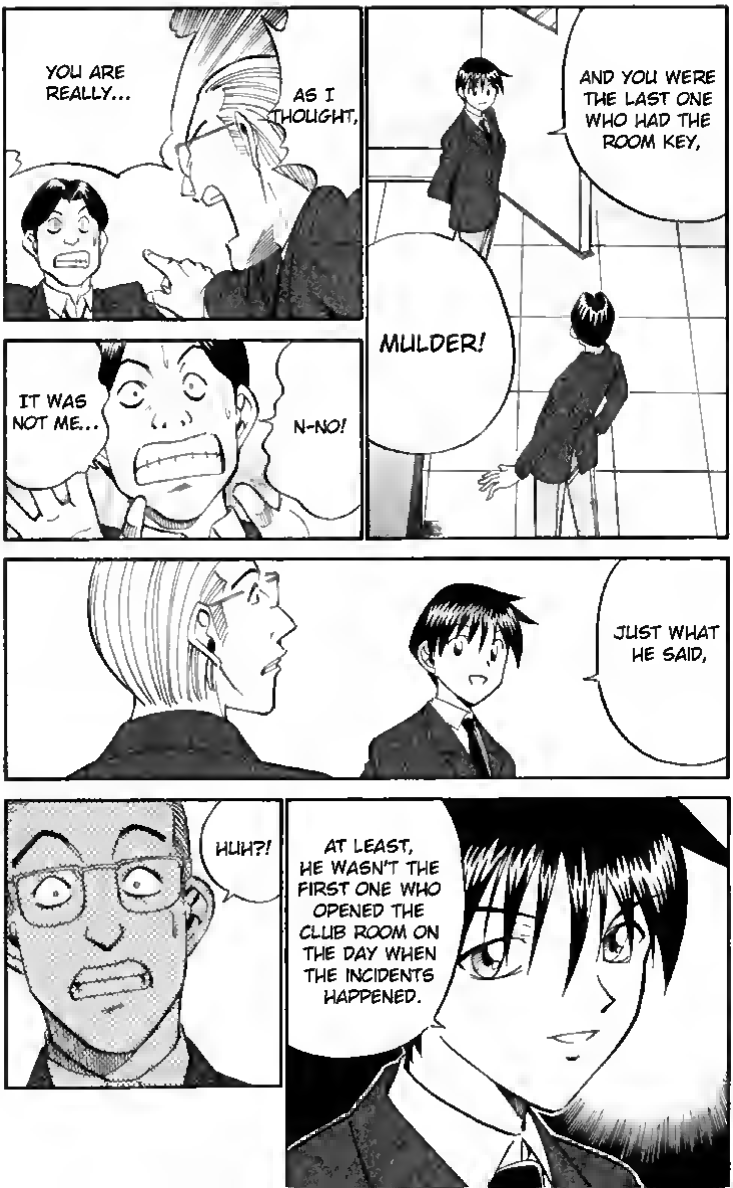
IN SUM, ALL OBJECTS WILL CERTAINLY MOVE BECAUSE OF THE VIBRATION AND PRODUCE A CERTAIN RHYTHM,


AS THE RESULT, A RESONANCE WILL TAKE PLACE AND MADE THE COAT SHAKE LOUDLY.
THIS COAT TOO, HAS ITS OWN VIBRATION AND BECAUSE OF THE KNOCKING JUST NOW RELEASED THE SAME FREQUENCY AS THE COAT...
IT HAPPENS BECAUSE ITS ENGINE RELEASES THE SAME FREQUENCY AS THE RHYTHM,
WE CALL THIS AS RESONANCE.


MORITA-SENPAI USED THE TRICK I'VE JUST SHOWED YOU TO MAKE THIS ROOM IN DISARRAY,


……
THE KNOCKING SOUND WAS FROM THE TIME WHEN HE WAS HITTING THE WALL.

IT WAS MORITA-SENPAI TOO.
THAT MEANS, THE PERSON WHO PUT THE KEY IN FRONT OF THE MIRROR..
ONLY YOU WHO HAVE THE REASON TO SAY THE CULPRIT IS THE GHOST.


YOU ARE REALLY...
AS I THOUGHT,
AND YOU WERE THE LAST ONE WHO HAD THE ROOM KEY,
MULDER!
IT WAS NOT ME..
N-NO!
JUST WHAT HE SAID,
HUH?!
AT LEAST, HE WASN'T THE FIRST ONE WHO OPENED THE CLUB ROOM ON THE DAY WHEN THE INCIDENTS HAPPENED.

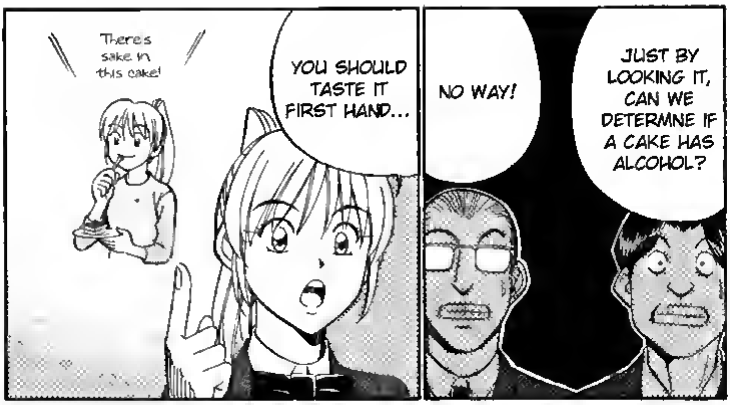
MY... MY TESTI-MONY?
AFTER HEARING NAGAIE-SENPAI'S TESTIMONY, EVERYTHING HAS BECOME CLEAR.
I DON'T...
DO YOU HAVE THE ROOM KEY?
PLEASE TRY TO REMEMBER IT... DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE LOOKING FOR MORITA-SENPAI BECAUSE YOU THOUGHT HE WAS THE ONE WHO HAD THE KEY?
BUT THE VOICE OF THE BORROWER WAS A MALE'S.
BUT MORITA-SENPAI THOUGHT ENARI-SENPAI WAS THE ONE WHO BROUGHT IT.
DOESN'T QUEEN HAVE IT?

IF IT WAS CAUGHT BY THE TEACHER THAT ENARI-SENPAI DIDN'T ACTUALLY HAVE THE KEY, IT WOULD BE FOUND OUT TOO SOON.
IF MORITA-SENPAI REALLY WANTED TO HIDE THE FACT HE WAS THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE AND BROUGHT THE KEY, HE WOULDN'T HAVE SAID ENARI-SENPAI'S NAME,
BUT THAT WASN'T THE TRUTH ...
DIDN'T YOU BRING IT?
AND IF MORITA-SENPAI WAS REALLY THE CULPRIT HE WOULDN'T HAVE SAID NAGAIE-SENPAI'S NAME.
THAT WAS, NAGAIE-SENPAI.
THE FIRST ONE WHO OPENED THE ROOM WAS ANOTHER MALE BESIDE MORITA-SENPAI...

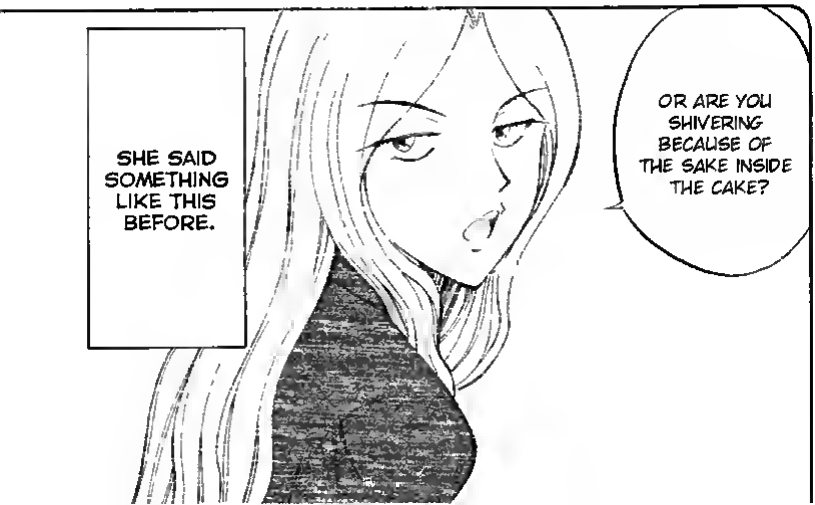
BECAUSE HE WORRIED HE WOULD BE SUSPECTED WHO BROUGHT THE KEY AND ATE THE CAKE...
THAT MEANS, THE REASON WHY NAGAIE-SENPAI WAS LOOKING FOR MORITA-SENPAI WAS DIFFERENT FROM THE TRUTH.
HE PUT THE KEY INSIDE MORITA-SENPAI'S POCKET...
SO THAT'S WHY THE KEY WAS INSIDE MY POCKET!?
AH!!
UMM... NO...
I THOUGHT I REALLY WAS THE ONE WHO PUT IN IT!

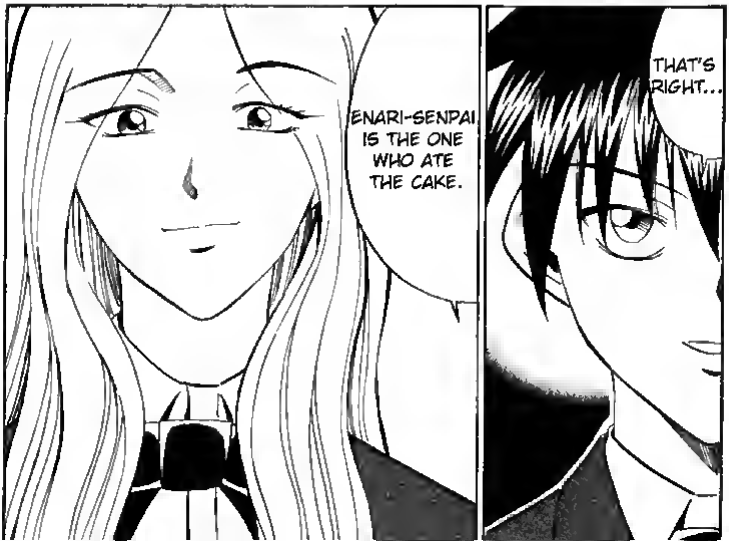
N-NOT ME!
SO YOU ARE THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE!?
SHUT UP! WEREN'T YOU THE ONE WHO OPENED THIS ROOM FIRST!?
IT'S NOT ME, I SWEAR!
HE DIDN'T EAT THE CAKE.
NAGAIE-SENPAI ISN'T LYING,
HUH?

IT MIGHT BE WHEN NAGAIE-SENPAI WAS ENTERING THE ROOM ...
THE CAKE WAS ALREADY GONE,
HE FEARED HE WOULD BE SUSPECTED, SO HE PUT THE KEY INSIDE MORITA-SENPAI'S POCKET.
SO... JUST WHO DID EAT THE CAKE?
THERE ARE SOME ALCOHOL-CONTAINED CAKES, RIGHT?
MIZUHARA-SAN,
UH-HUH.


There's sake in this cake!
YOU SHOULD TASTE IT FIRST HAND...
NO WAY!
JUST BY LOOKING IT, CAN WE DETERMNE IF A CAKE HAS ALCOHOL?

AND THE ONE WHO CERTAINLY HAD EATEN THE CAKE...
THAT'S RIGHT, THE FIRST ONE WHO TOUCHED THE CAKE FIRST...

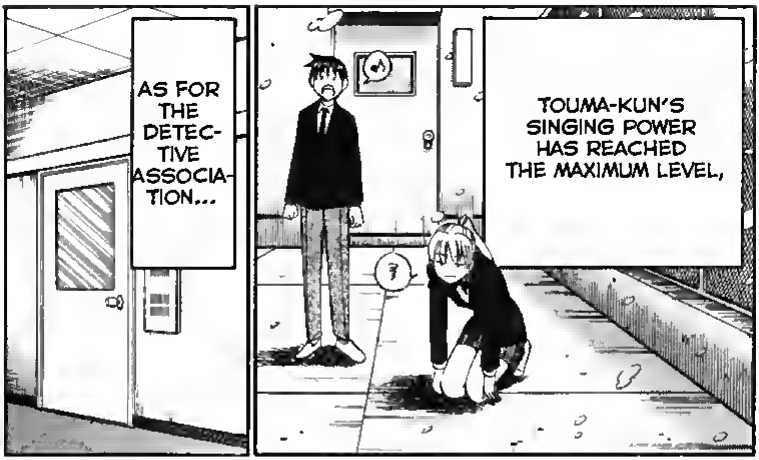

SHE SAID SOMETHING LIKE THIS BEFORE.
OR ARE YOU SHIVERING BECAUSE OF THE SAKE INSIDE THE CAKE?

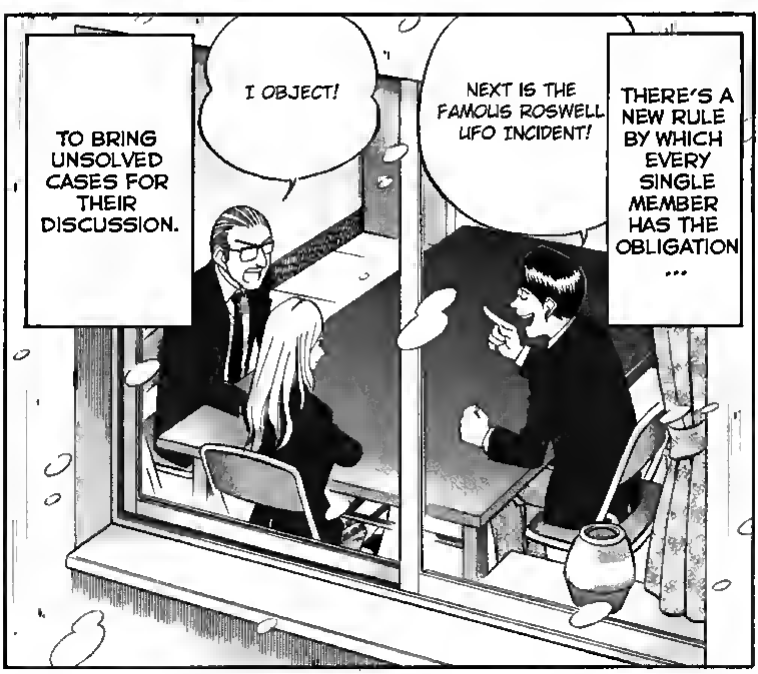

ENARI-SENPAI IS THE ONE WHO ATE THE CAKE.
THAT'S RIGHT...

THERE'S EVEN SAKE INSIDE!
DELICIOUS!
JUST ONE MORE BITE...
LET'S TRY THIS...
IT MIGHT BE WHEN SHE PUT THE CAKE INSIDE THE FRIDGE...
AND THE CAKE WAS GONE.
DID YOU EVEN NEED TO MAKE SUCH A COMMOTION!?
SO... IN THE END YOU WERE THE ONE WHO ATE IT!?
SHE FOUNDED THIS ASSOCIATION BECAUSE SHE'S FOND OF DETECTIVE NOVELS.
BUT ALL THIS TIME, THEY HAVEN'T FOUND ANY GOOD CASE THAT NEEDED TO BE SOLVED.

YOU THOUGHT IT MUST BE REALLY INTERESTING IF ALL OF YOU CAN TRY TO ANALYZE THIS CASE...
THAT'S WHY...
AND EVERYONE COULD BE HAPPY.
PRESI-DENT ...

YOU'VE GOT ALL OF IT RIGHT.
AS TOUMA-KUN SAID...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THUS ENDS MY DEMONSTRATION.
AFTER THAT CASE...
MANY THINGS CHANGED.


AS FOR THE DETECTIVE ASSOCIATION...
TOUMA-KUN'S SINGING POWER HAS REACHED THE MAXIMUM LEVEL,


TO BRING UNSOLVED CASES FOR THEIR DISCUSSION.
I OBJECT!
NEXT IS THE FAMOUS ROSWELL UFO INCIDENT!
THERE'S A NEW RULE BY WHICH EVERY SINGLE MEMBER HAS THE OBLIGATION ...

Q.E.D

quod erat demonstrandum

証明終了

IRREGULAR SCANS CREDITS

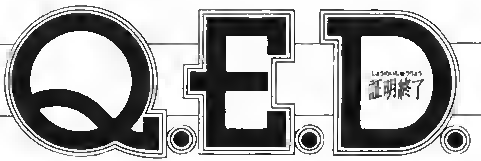
RAWS : SHERLUPIN

TRANSLATIONS : CRIMS

CLEANING : GOKI408

TYPESETTING : TUX

PROOFREADING : GENT



加藤元浩
MOTOHIRO KATOH

HELLO, IRREGULAR SCANS HERE!

AS YOU KNOW, SCANLATION ISN'T AN EASY JOB, WHICH REQUIRES THE HELP OF SEVERAL PEOPLE WHO ARE WILLING TO TAKE UP ROLES FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE GROUP AND THE MANGA-READING COMMUNITY. WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED TO HAVE MANY, MANY FANS WHO HAVE DONE THEIR BEST TO ENSURE THAT YOUR FAVORITE MANGA ARE RELEASED WITHOUT A HITCH.

BUT NOW, THE TIME HAS COME AGAIN WHERE WE'RE FACING A SLIGHT SHORTAGE IN MEMBERS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF EXPERTISE. SO IF YOU'RE WILLING TO HELP US, PLEASE GO THROUGH THE TABLE BELOW AND GIVE US A HOLLER AT EITHER OUR GROUP PAGE, ***IRREGULAR SCANS*** AT BATO.TO OR JUST DROP US A MAIL AT ***HIGHSCHOOLDETECTIVE@YAHOO.FR***

Manga	Indonesian Raw Provider	Cleaner	Translator (Japanese or Indonesian)	Typesettter
Tantei Gakuen Q	Closed	Needed	Closed	Closed
Kindaichi	Needed for 'New' and '20th Anniversary' series	Needed	Closed	Needed
Q.E.D	Badly Needed	Needed	Needed	Needed
C.M.B	Needed	Needed	Closed	Closed

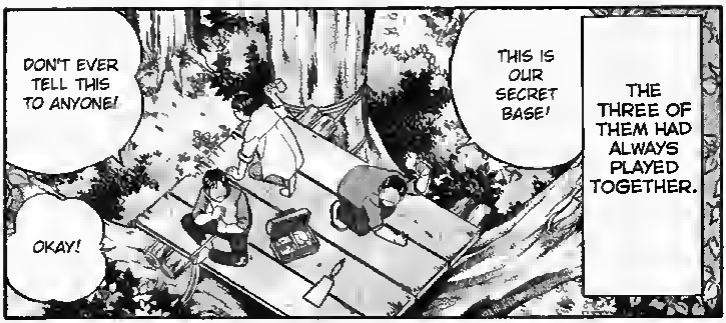
AS MENTIONED ABOVE, WE REALLY REALLY NEED INDONESIAN RAW PROVIDERS FOR ***Q.E.D***, SO IF YOU'RE WILLING TO SCAN FOR US, DO DROP US A LINE!

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HAVING YOU ABOARD :)

THREE BIRDS

AT THE PEAK OF A TREE,

THERE ONCE LIVED THREE BIRDS.


THE THREE OF THEM HAD ALWAYS PLAYED TOGETHER.
THIS IS OUR SECRET BASE!
DON'T EVER TELL THIS TO ANYONE!
OKAY!

LOOK! THERE'S A HOLE!
WE CAN PUT OUR THINGS IN HERE!
THIS IS OUR BASE'S SAFE!

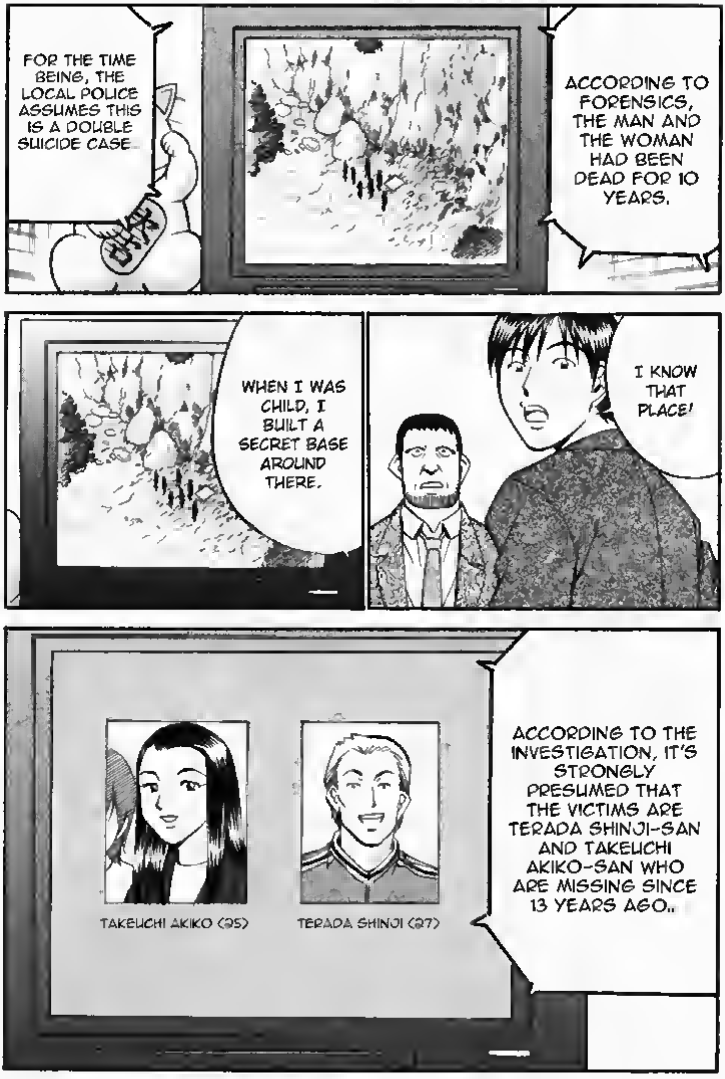
BUT SUDDENLY, THOSE THREE BIRDS...

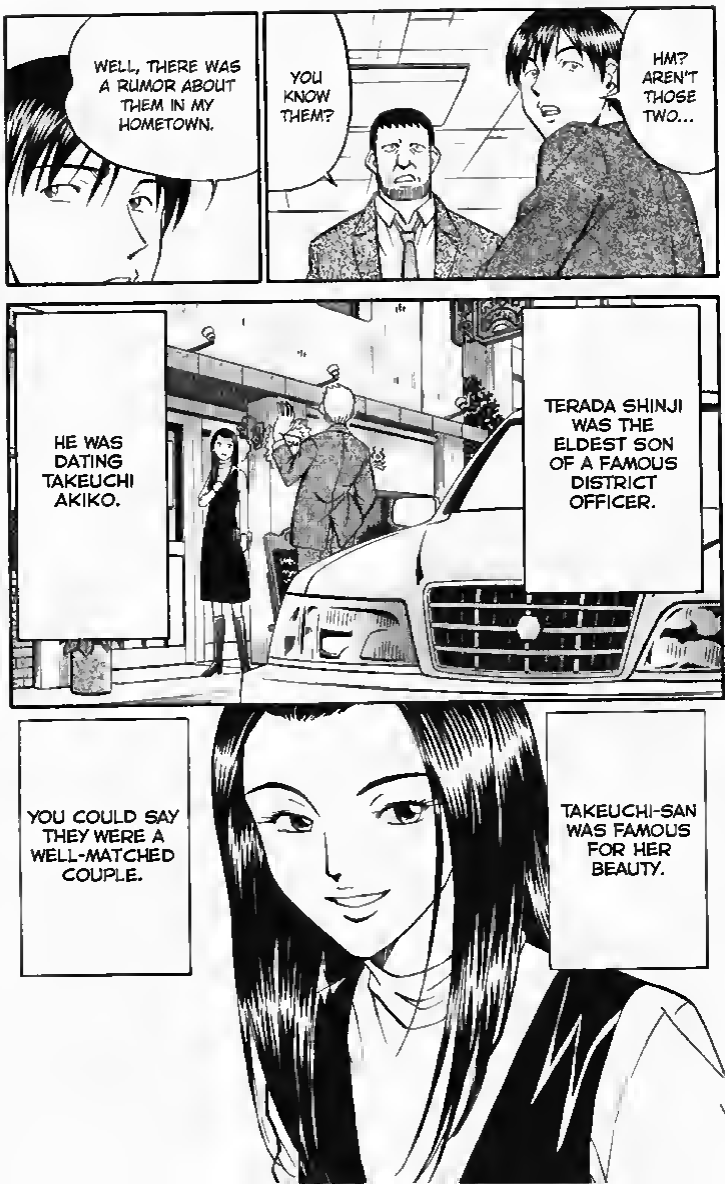
13 YEARS LATER ....
BE CAREFUL NOT TO SLIP.
BRING MORE ROPE!

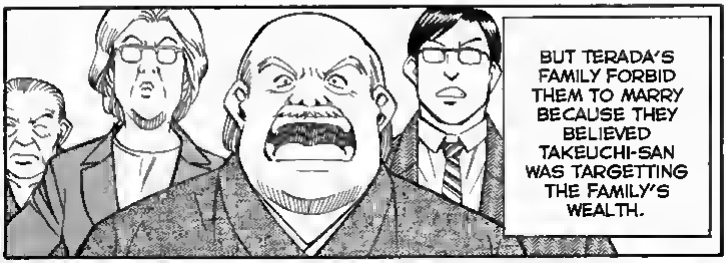
IS THIS SUICIDE BY JUMPING FROM A HEIGHT?
FURTHERMORE, THOSE TWO...
HM?
THE VICTIMS ARE A MAN AND A WOMAN.
WHAT IS IT?
THEIR AGE IS ESTIMATED TO BE BETWEEN 20S TO 30S.
NOTHING... BUT THERE IS A WEIRD WOUND ON THE FOREHEAD OF THE MALE VICTIM...

TOKYO
SUDDENLY, A BOAR WAS RUSHING THROUGH A PACHINKO BUILDING...
AS USUAL, I ORDER ONE TONKATSU!
THEN, GYOZA FOR ME.

FROM TOMORROW ON I'LL BE REALLY BUSY, MANAGING DOCUMENTS FOR THE ATTORNEY.
SO YOU FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN ARRESTING THE CRIMINAL, INSPECTOR MIZUHARA!
THREE MONTHS AGO IN Y CITY, T PREFECTURE, AT THE MOUNTAIN RANGES
NEXT HEAD-LINE
YEAH, I DO!
YOU REALLY HATE WORK-ING BEHIND THE DESK, DON'T YOU?
Y CITY T PREFECTURE...
A MAN AND A WOMAN'S SKULLS HAVE BEEN FOUND..
SOME-THING'S WRONG?
THAT IS MY HOMETOWN...


FOR THE TIME BEING, THE LOCAL POLICE ASSUMES THIS IS A DOUBLE SUICIDE CASE.
ACCORDING TO FORENSICS, THE MAN AND THE WOMAN HAD BEEN DEAD FOR 10 YEARS.
WHEN I WAS CHILD, I BUILT A SECRET BASE AROUND THERE.
I KNOW THAT PLACE!
TAKEUCHI AKIKO (25)
TERADA SHINJI (27)
ACCORDING TO THE INVESTIGATION, IT'S STRONGLY PRESUMED THAT THE VICTIMS ARE TERADA SHINJI-SAN AND TAKEUCHI AKIKO-SAN WHO ARE MISSING SINCE 13 YEARS AGO..


WELL, THERE WAS A RUMOR ABOUT THEM IN MY HOMETOWN.
YOU KNOW THEM?
HM? AREN'T THOSE TWO...
HE WAS DATING TAKEUCHI AKIKO.
TERADA SHINJI WAS THE ELDEST SON OF A FAMOUS DISTRICT OFFICER.
YOU COULD SAY THEY WERE A WELL-MATCHED COUPLE.
TAKEUCHI-SAN WAS FAMOUS FOR HER BEAUTY.


BUT TERADA'S FAMILY FORBID THEM TO MARRY BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED TAKEUCHI-SAN WAS TARGETTING THE FAMILY'S WEALTH.

PEOPLE THOUGHT THEY'D DECIDED TO ELOPE.
THEN ONE DAY, THEY DISAP-PEARED.

ARGH! NOT GOOD!

SORRY FOR THE WAIT...
THERE'S NO WAY THIS IS A DOUBLE SUICIDE.

I JUST REMEMBERED MY DAUGHTER WILL COME TO BRING MY LUNCH!

WHA--!?
MY BAD, SASAZUKA! YOU CAN EAT ALL OF IT.
FEW DAYS LATER
警察署入口
THOUGHT AS MUCH.
AH!
SASAZUKA, LET'S GO GET SOME FOOD!
HUH? REALLY?
I TAKE IT YOUR DAUGHTER WON'T BE BRINGING YOUR LUNCH TODAY?

WEIRD...
THERE'S NO MISTAKE!
DAD!
WHAT'S WRONG?
SO CUTE!
ON OUR WAY HERE, WE MET A WOMAN WHO WAS WALKING HER DOG.

IT'S TOTO.
SHE GRUMBLED AS SHE ANSWERED.
WHAT'S HIS NAME?
HUH? WHY SO ANGRY?
LET'S GO!
THERE'S ACTUALLY NOTHING WRONG WITH THAT.
WHAT A WEIRD STORY.
BECAUSE SHE'D ASKED THE SAME QUESTON EARLIER.

HUH--? I REALLY DON'T REMEMBER ...
BEING ASKED THE SAME THING TWICE, NO WONDER THE OWNER WAS ANNOYED.
YOU'VE DONE SOME-THING SIMILAR, TOO?
SO, SASAZUKA
WE CAN'T REALLY RELY ON OUR MEMORIES, CAN WE...
ACTUALLY, YESTERDAY I HAD A REUNION WITH MY TWO BEST FRIENDS SINCE CHILDHOOD.
WE WENT OUT FOR DRINKS.
SHIBUYA
1500円

HE EVEN HAS A CHILD!
HUUUH!? HE'S ALREADY MARRIED!?
AND STARTED TO TALK ABOUT THE PAST...
SAKAI, YOU'RE STILL LIVING THERE, AREN'T YOU?
THE ONE ON THE TREE...
THAT'S RIGHT? HOW ABOUT OUR SECRET BASE?
YEAH, IT'S STILL THERE.
Sakai Hiroshi
Successor of a farm in the village.

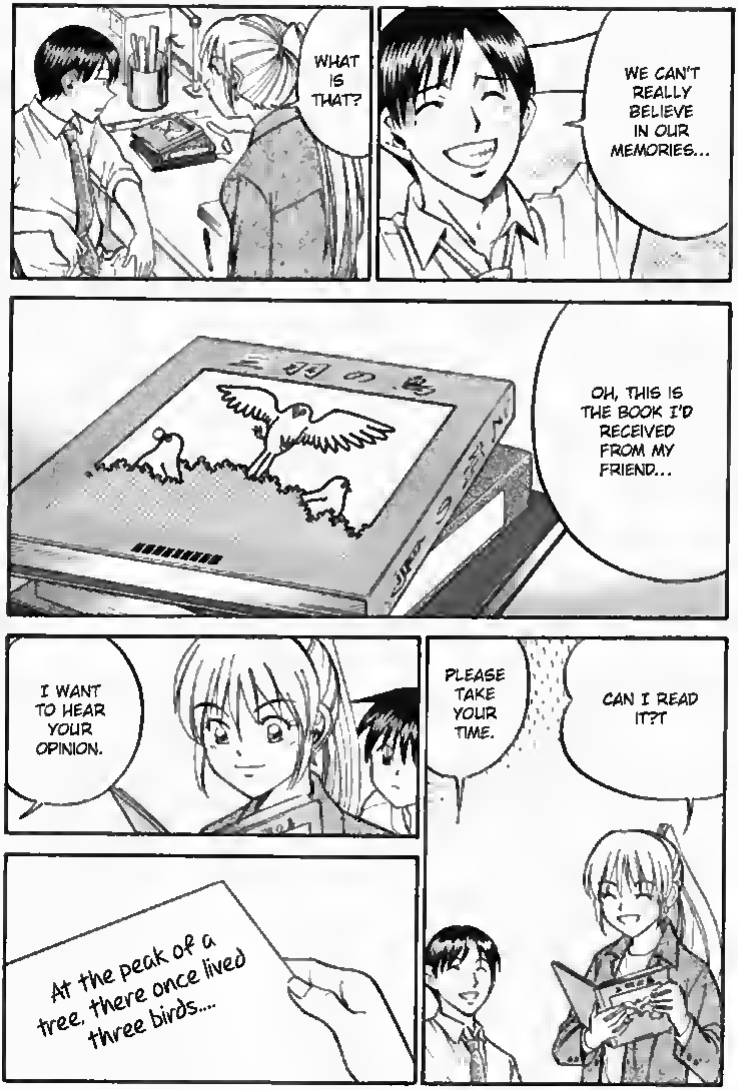
INAGAWA. NOW YOU'RE A PICTURE BOOK AUTHOR, YOU CAN TRAVEL TO EVERY PLACE IN JAPAN, CAN'T YOU?
IT'S ONLY BIG ENOUGH FOR ONE PERSON TO STAND UPRIGHT, THOUGH.
RIGHT?
THIS IS MY LATEST WORK, A PRESENT FOR YOU TWO.
Inagawa Tetsuo
A nomadic picture book author.
WELL,
THIS IS A DEPICTION OF OUR CHILDHOOD MEMORIES
BEER
IS THIS GOOD?

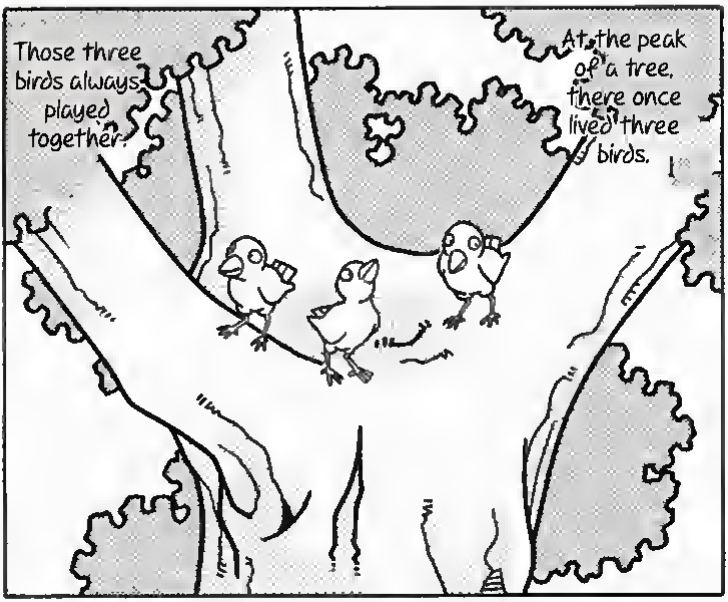
THAT SURPRISED ME! ALL THIS TIME WE THOUGHT THEY HAD ELOPED, AND ACTUALLY THEY WERE ALREADY DEAD FOR 13 YEARS...
AH! I SAW IT ON THE TV!
THAT'S RIGHT! THE CASE THAT HAPPENED NEAR OUR SECRET BASE...
YOU WORK IN THE POLICE IN TOKYO, RIGHT? DO YOU KNOW SOMETHING?
THOSE TWO COMMITTED SUICIDE...
HEY, SASAZUKA!
TRUE... THERE IS NO CONNECTION WITH TOKYO.
OF COURSE NOT! THAT'S OUT OF OUR JURISDICTION.
THERE WAS A TIME YOU BOUGHT A TOY GUN WITH SOUND AND ALWAYS PLAYED WITH IT!
THAT'S WHY YOU CAME TO TOKYO TO BECOME A POLICE.
ALL THESE TIME YOU LOVED WATCHING POLICE DRAMAS...

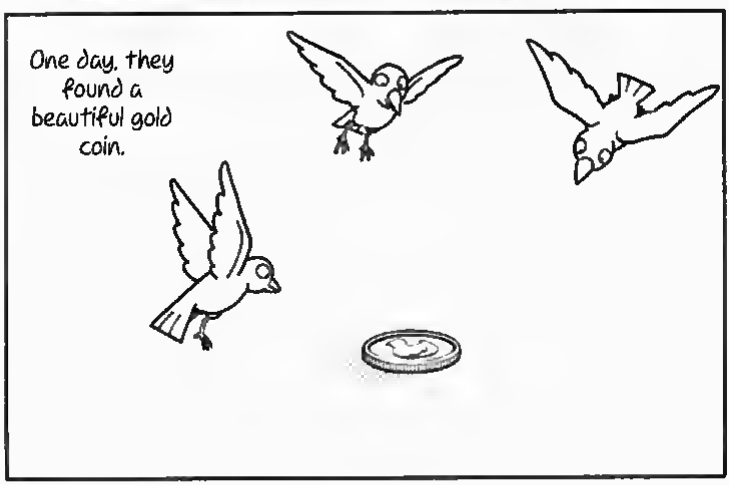
BUT YOU ALWAYS PLAYED WITH IT! DID YOU REALLY FORGET?
SAKAI, YOU REMEMBER IT TOO, RIGHT!
HUH? WELL...
HUH? DID I REALLY HAVE A TOY LIKE THAT?
IS THAT SO?
IF I WASN'T WRONG, YOU LIKED TO PRETEND YOU WERE A POLICEMAN WITH THAT TOY GUN.
IF I REMEMBER CORRECTLY, I ASKED MY PARENTS FOR IT, BUT THEY COULDN'T AFFORD IT.

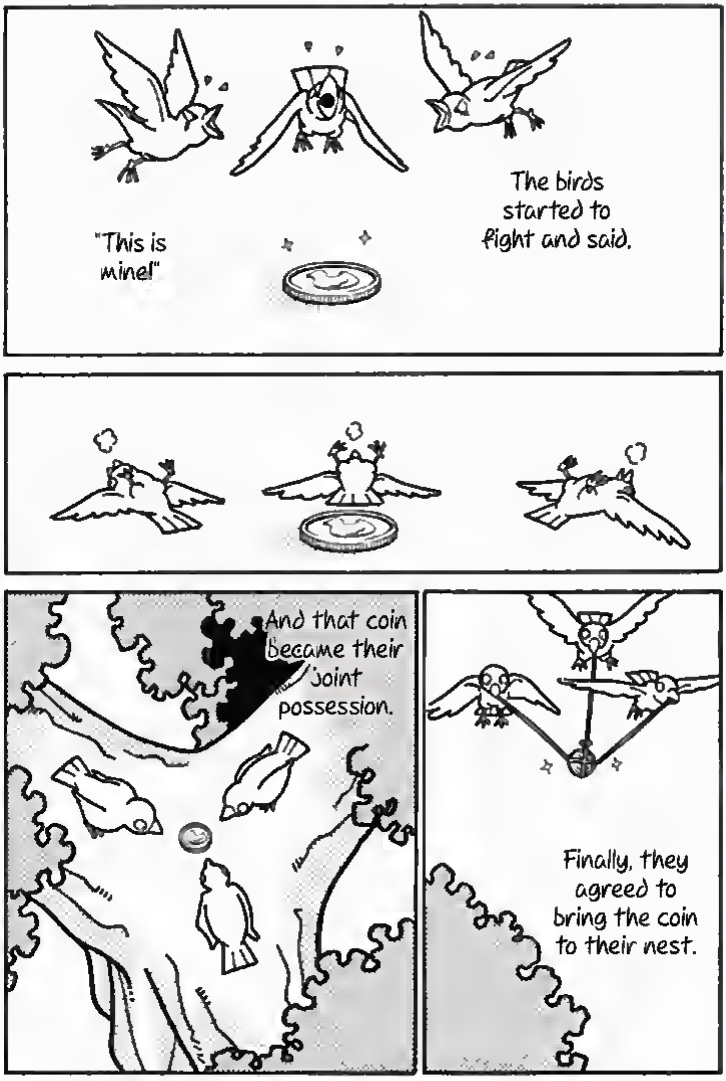
SO YOU REALLY DID FORGET?
MAYBE SOMEONE LENT IT TO ME...
?
?
EVEN THOUGH THAT WAS YOUR TREASURE
AHAHAHA!
SOMEONE LIKE YOU ISN'T COMPETENT TO BE A POLICEMAN!

AND THAT'S WHAT HAPPENED


WHAT IS THAT?
WE CAN'T REALLY BELIEVE IN OUR MEMORIES...
OH, THIS IS THE BOOK I'D RECEIVED FROM MY FRIEND...
I WANT TO HEAR YOUR OPINION.
PLEASE TAKE YOUR TIME.
CAN I READ IT?
At the peak of a tree, there once lived three birds...


Those three birds always played together.
At the peak of a tree, there once lived three birds.


One day, they found a beautiful gold coin.


"This is mine!"
The birds started to fight and said.
And that coin became their joint possession.
Finally, they agreed to bring the coin to their nest.

"BUT ONE DAY..."
SASAZUKA -SAN,
THERE'S A TELEPHONE FROM T PREFECTURE
FROM T PREFECTURE?

T PRE-FEC-TURE
広域暴力団特別
飲酒運転取締
IS THERE ANY DEVELOP-MENT WITH THAT DOUBLE SUICIDE CASE?
SORRY FOR THE INCONVEN-IENCE.
PLEASE HAVE A SEAT.

ACCORDING TO THE INVESTIGATION AND VICTIM'S DENTAL RECORDS,
IT IS CERTAIN THE VICTIMS ARE TERADA SHINJI-SAN AND TAKEUCHI AKIKO-SAN WHO HAVE BEEN MISSING FOR 13 YEARS.

THIS IS THE CORPSE OF TERADA SHINJI-SAN.
THAT IS THE PHOTO FROM THE CRIME SCENE.
OH!

INDEED... BUT WHAT'S WITH THIS WOUND?
THERE'S A WOUND.
PLEASE TAKE A LOOK AT THE FOREHEAD.

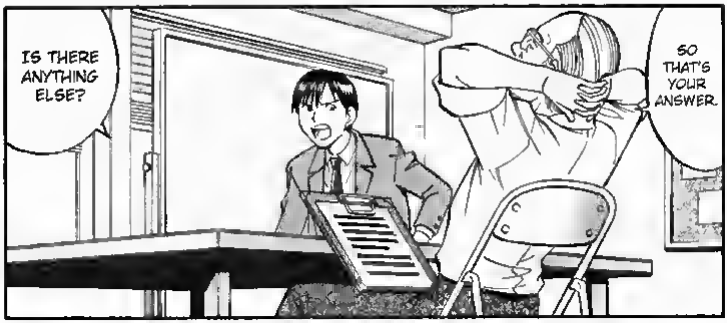
ACCORDING TO THE FORENSICS, THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE CAUSE OF THE WOUND IS NOT FROM THE FALL.
IT MIGHT'VE BEEN CAUSED AFTER WE DIED.
SO, WHAT ARE YOU INTENDING TO SAY IS THAT ANOTHER PERSON HARMED THE CORPSE?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND THIS...
IS A CAR KEY.

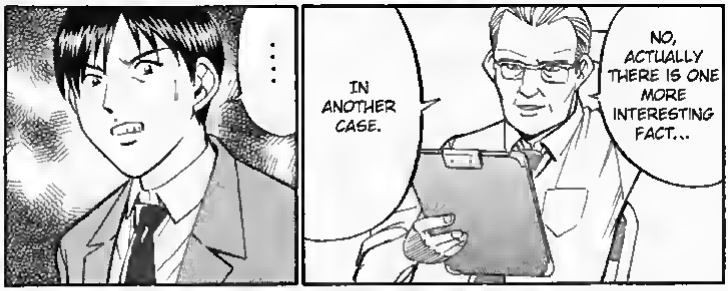
ACCORDING TO THE RECORDS, THIS CAR HAD MADE A PARKING VIOLATION NEAR THE CRIME SCENE.
IT WAS FOUND INSIDE TERADA-SAN'S POCKET.
FROM THE PLATE NUMBER, WE HAVE ALREADY FOUND WHO THE OWNER IS.
THE CAR WAS TOWED BACK BY THE POLICE.
BUT THEIR REACTION WAS NOT WHAT WE HAD EXPECTED...
THEN, WE WENT TO THE TERADA FAMILY HOUSE.

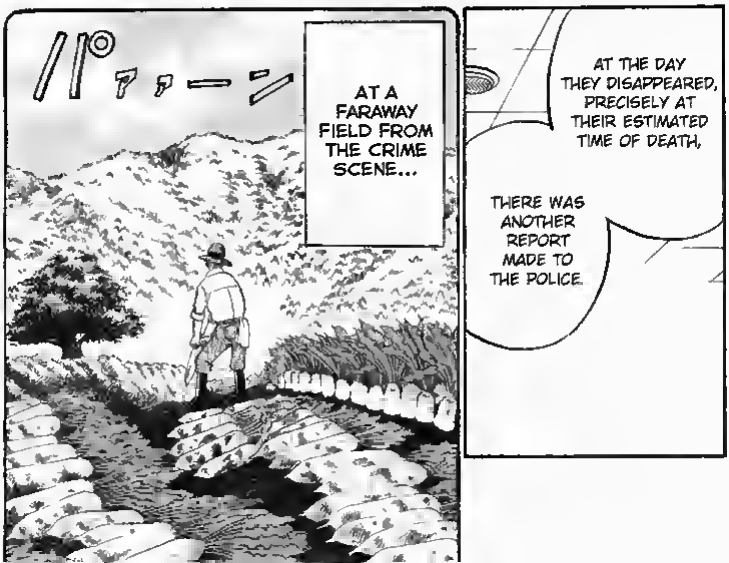
I HAVE DISOWNED HIM!
THE MAN WHO ELOPED WITH THAT WOMAN IS NOT MY SON!
AT THAT TIME, THE CAR IN QUESTION WAS LOCKED.
BUT, THERE WAS AN INTERESTING FACT,
IN THE END, THE CAR WAS SOLD,
WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS? DO YOU THINK A PERSON WHO WANTS TO COMMIT SUICIDE STILL REMEMBERS TO LOCK THEIR CAR?

PLEASE WAIT, THIS IS THE MOST INTERESTING FACT.
WHAT ARE YOU IMPLYING...?
LIFE INSUR-ANCE?
IT TURNS OUT THEY HAD SELF-INSURED EACH OTHER FOR LIFE INSURANCE AT A GREAT AMOUNT.
WHAT ARE YOUR OPINIONS?
THAT MEANS THERE IS NO ONE WHO CAN RECEIVE THE DUE COMPENSATION.
BECAUSE EACH OF THE LEGITIMATE RECEIVER HAD DIED,
CALLING ME FROM TOKYO FOR SOMETHING LIKE THIS...
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ME?

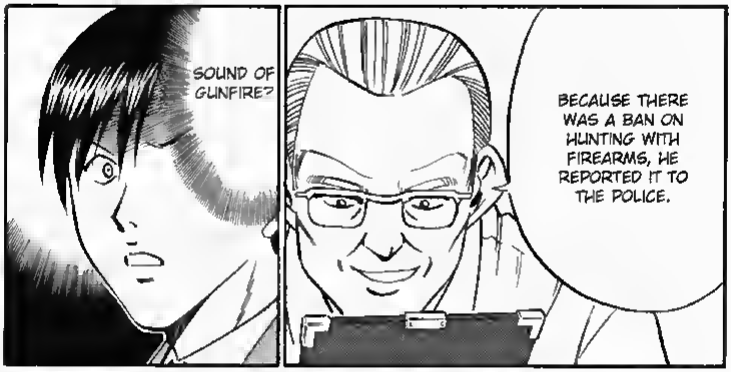
MAYBE YOU REMEMBER SOMETHING.
YOU ARE A NATIVE OF THOSE PARTS, RIGHT
I DEFINITELY HAVE NO CONNECTION WITH THIS!
BESIDES, THE LOCAL POLICE ARE THE ONES WHO HANDLE THIS CASE...
.....
WE STILL DON'T KNOW THE TRUTH, BUT THE WOUND INDEED APPEARED AFTER HE DIED.
ISN'T IT DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE WHEN HE GOT THAT WOUND?
FOR EXAMPLE, THE WOUND ON TERADA-SAN'S FOREHEAD.
MAYBE THEY ARRANGED IT SO NO ONE COULD RECEIVE THAT SUCH A LARGE PAYMENT.
AND FOR THE INSURANCE, MAYBE THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE WERE MOCKING THE TERADA FAMILY, WHO THOUGHT TAKEUCHI-SAN ONLY WANTED THEIR WEALTH.
THE ANSWER IS, THEY COULD HAVE!
IF YOU WERE ASKING WHETHER A SUICIDAL PERSON COULD HAVE LOCKED THE CAR.


IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE?
SO THAT'S YOUR ANSWER.


...
IN ANOTHER CASE.
NO, ACTUALLY THERE IS ONE MORE INTERESTING FACT...


パァーン
AT A FARAWAY FIELD FROM THE CRIME SCENE...
AT THE DAY THEY DISAPPEARED, PRECISELY AT THEIR ESTIMATED TIME OF DEATH,
THERE WAS ANOTHER REPORT MADE TO THE POLICE.

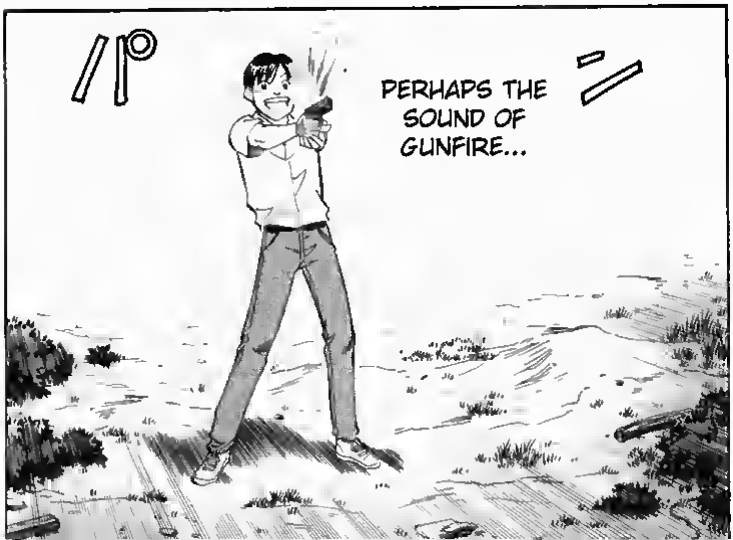
THAT MAN HEARD THE SOUND OF GUNFIRE FROM THE AREA AROUND THE CRIME SCENE.
WHAT'S THAT SOUND?


SOUND OF GUNFIRE?
BECAUSE THERE WAS A BAN ON HUNTING WITH FIREARMS, HE REPORTED IT TO THE POLICE.

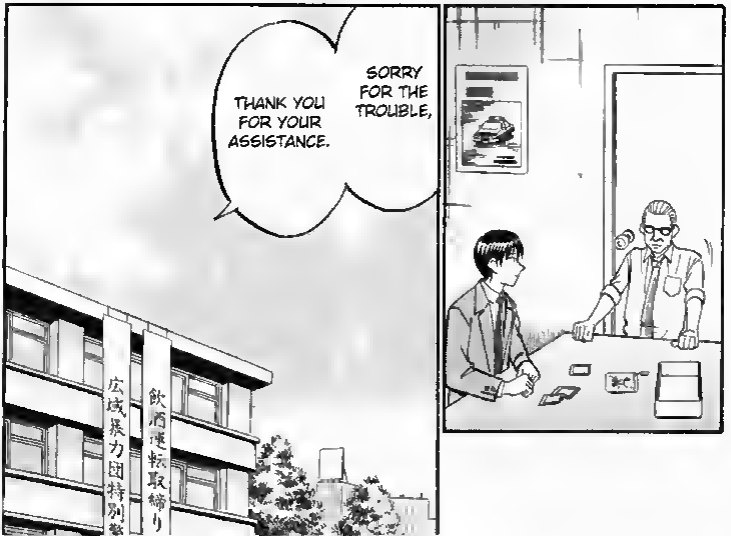
DETEC-TIVE SASA-ZUKA.
AFTER INSPECTION, AT THE PEAK OF THE TREE WAS FOUND A KIDS' PLAYGROUND
THEY MUST HAVE PLAYED WITH FIREWORKS OR SOMETHING AT THAT TIME
WHAT'S MORE, THE TREE EXACTLY FACES WHERE THE CRIME SCENE IS.
I HEARD FROM THE RESIDENTS THAT WHEN YOU WERE A CHILD, YOU USUALLY PLAYED AROUND THAT TREE.

DID YOU SEE ANYTHING?

WHEN THAT DOUBLE SUICIDE HAPPENED...


PERHAPS THE SOUND OF GUNFIRE...

NO...
I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING...


THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE.
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE,
飲酒運転取締り
広域暴力団特別

THIS TOWN IS ALMOST THE SAME AS EVER.
THIS SNACK STORE IS STILL HERE.
インターネット
マンガ喫茶
DVDビデオ
200円
NTT DoCoDeMo
新規

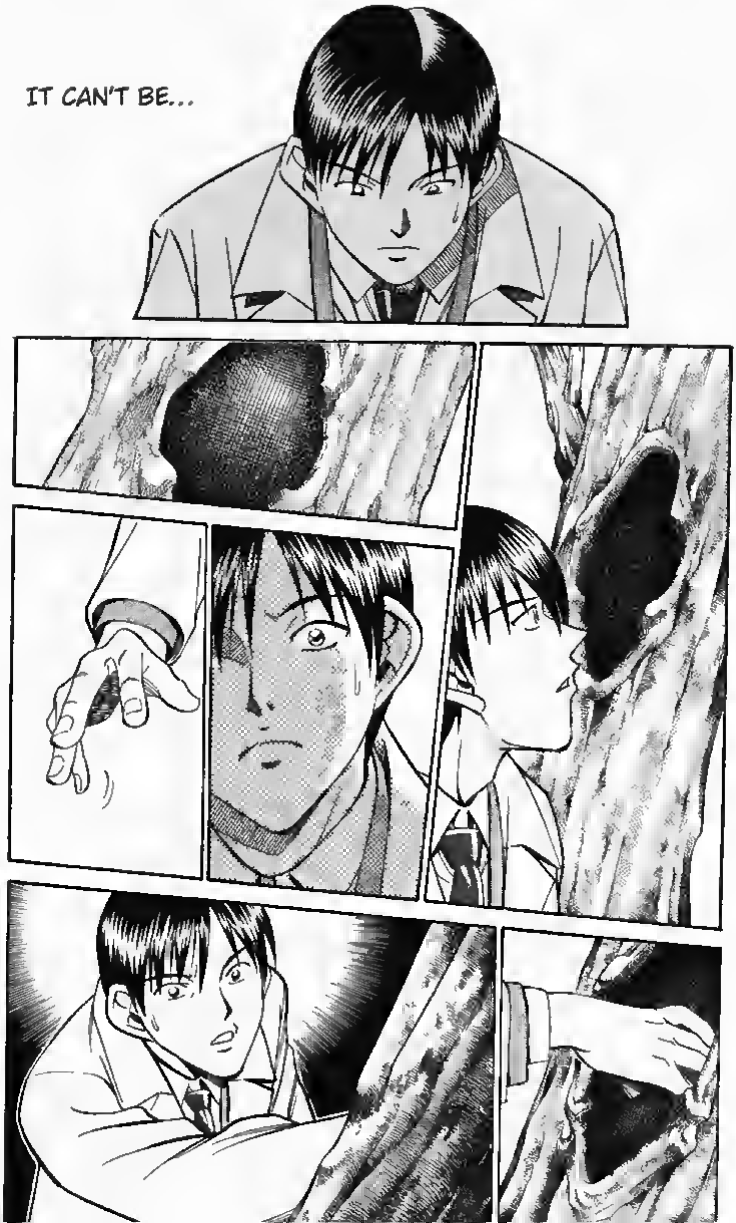
RIGHT, BACK THEN I REALLY LOVED WATCHING POLICE DRAMAS.
MUM, BUY THAT GUN FOR ME!
NO WAY!
EVEN WANTING TO HAVE THAT TOY GUN.
WHAT IF YOU ENDED UP HURTING SOMEONE!
ALL IT DOES IS MAKE A SOUND!

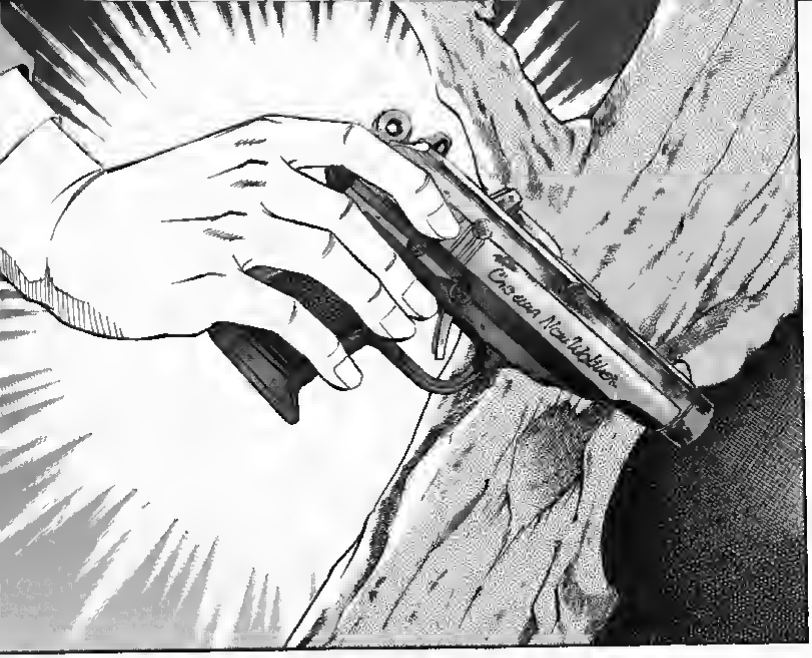
HEY!! YOU'RE TOO NOISY!
BUT... I WAS ABLE TO PLAY WITH THAT TOY GUN!
IF YOU WANT TO PLAY, DO IT AT THE MOUNTAINS!

SO, IS THIS THE CRIME SCENE?

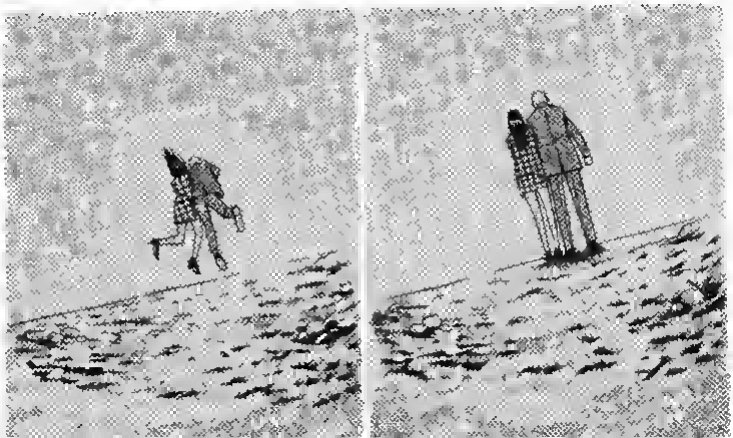
AH...
EVEN THOUGH WE ALWAYS PLAYED HERE...
IF I'M NOT WRONG...
WE WERE PROHIBITED FROM PLAYING AROUND HERE!
WHY DIDN'T WE REALIZE THE CORPSES?
WHY DIDN'T WE PLAY HERE?
WHY IS IT?

I CAN SEE THE CRIME SCENE FROM HERE...


IT CAN'T BE...

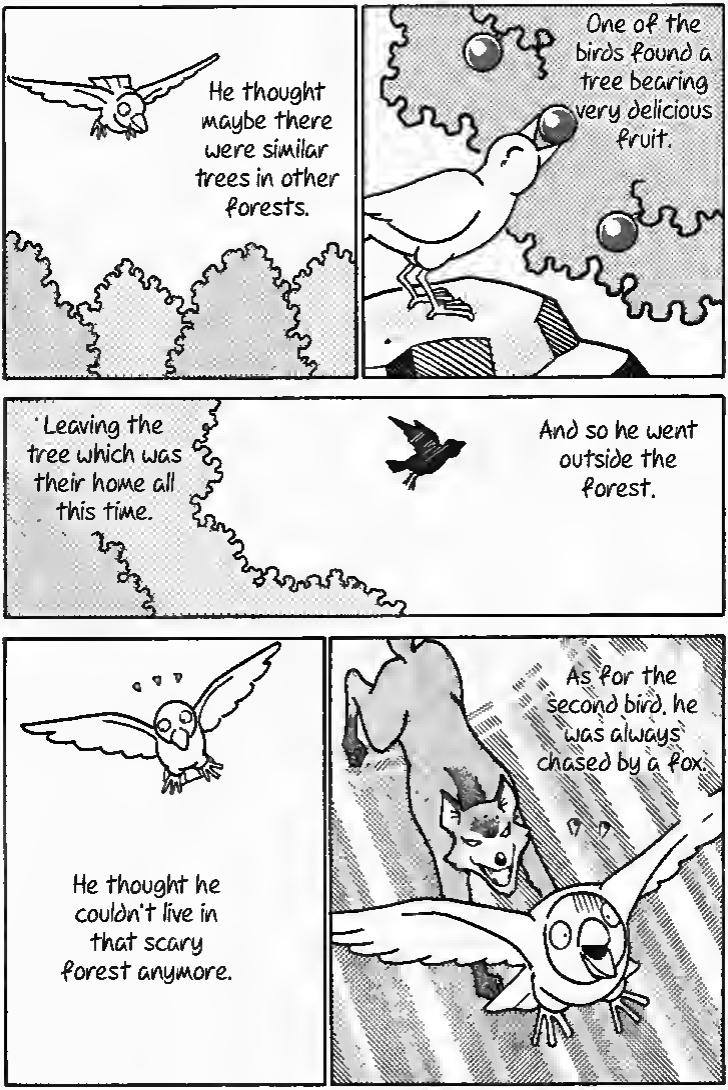

Chrome Molybdenum

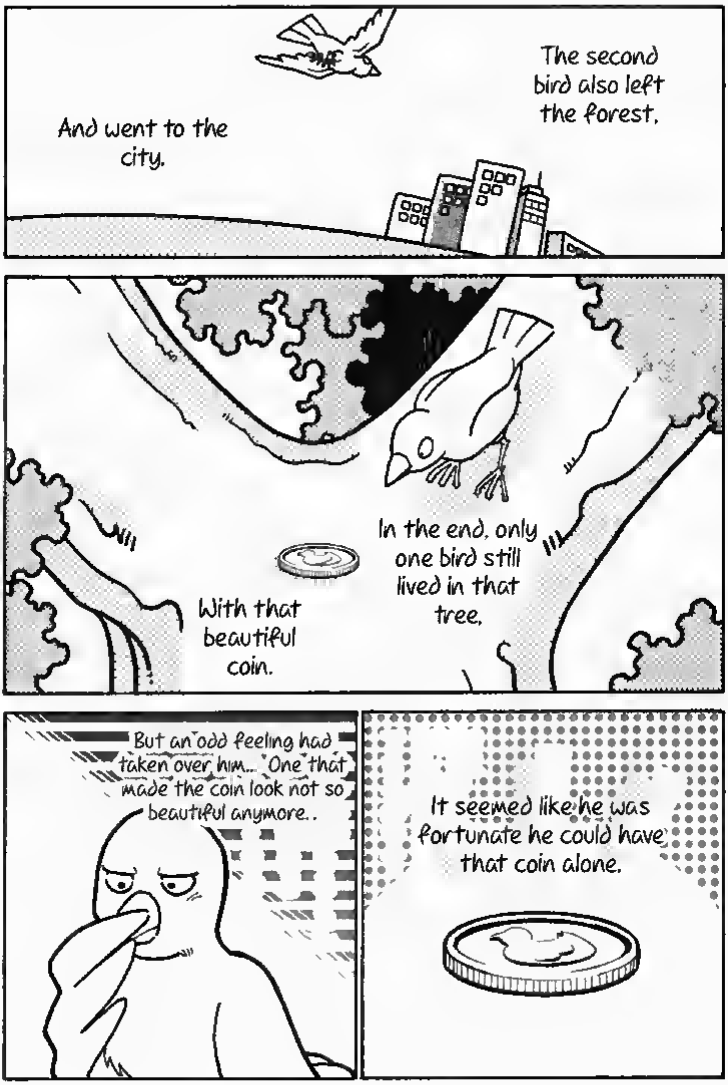
SEE THAT!?
DID I...

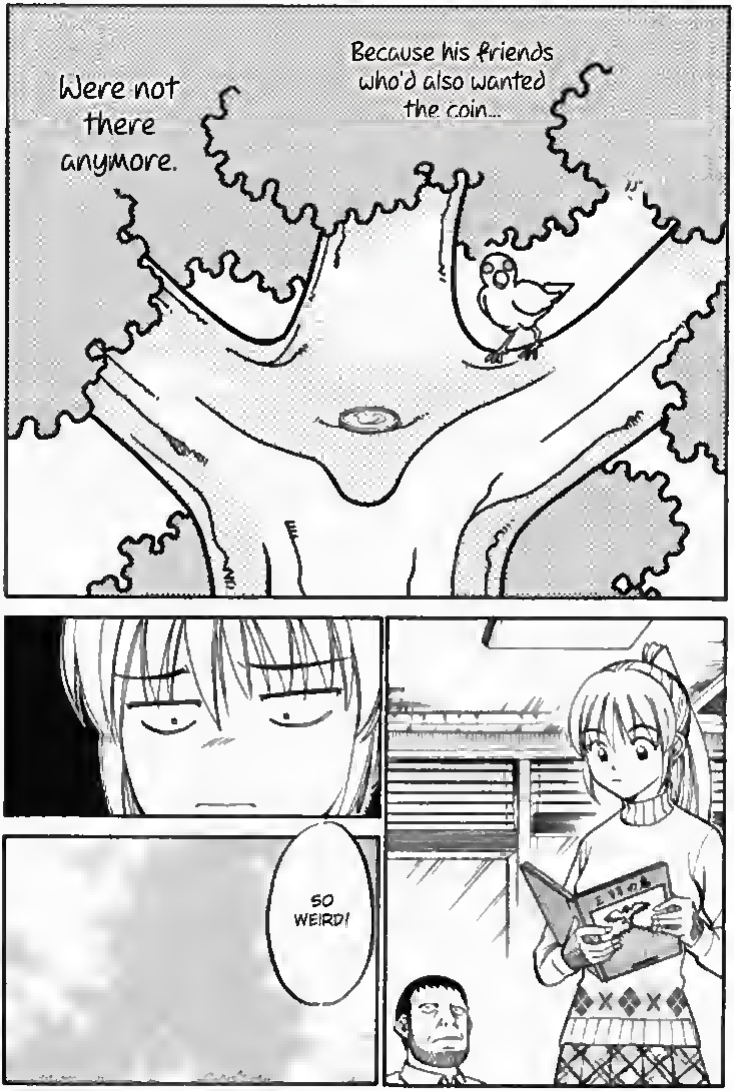


BUT... I DON'T REMEMBER!
BUT WHY!?

IS DETECTIVE SASAZUKA WORKING TODAY?
YEAH.
HEY, WATCH YOUR MANNERS!
I WANNA CONTINUE TO READ THIS STORY.
THEN,
AND TOGETHER, THAT COIN BECAME THEIR JOINT POSSESSION
BUT ONE DAY...


He thought maybe there were similar trees in other forests.
One of the birds found a tree bearing very delicious fruit.
Leaving the tree which was their home all this time.
And so he went outside the forest.
He thought he couldn't live in that scary forest anymore.
As for the second bird, he was always chased by a fox.


The second bird also left the forest.
And went to the city.
In the end, only one bird still lived in that tree.
With that beautiful coin.
But an odd feeling had taken over him... One that made the coin look not so beautiful anymore..
It seemed like he was fortunate he could have that coin alone.



WHAT SECRET DOES THE STORY HIDE? TO BE CONTINUED...

CHAPTER 35.2 : THREE BIRDS - PART 2

ARE YOU STILL THINKING ABOUT THOSE CHILDHOOD MEMORIES YOU CAN'T REMEMBER?
I WILL DO MY VERY BEST TO FIX THIS REPORT.
DETEC-TIVE SASA-ZUKA.
IS THERE A POSSIBILITY YOUR CHILDHOOD FRIENDS MIGHT KNOW SOMETHING?

IN THE STORY, ONE BIRD WAS SCARED AND FLED TO THE CITY...
YOU FRIEND, THE PICTURE BOOK AUTHOR. WHEN HE GAVE YOU THIS BOOK, DIDN'T HE SAY...
THAT THIS BOOK WAS ABOUT ALL OF YOUR CHILDHOOD MEMORIES?
I THINK THAT WAS YOU, DETECTIVE SASAZUKA.
FOR NOW I MUST FIX THIS REPORT.
I'VE GOT NO TIME TO THINK ABOUT THAT.
THE BIRD WAS SCARED...
AND WENT TO THE CITY?

THEN PLEASE LET ME INVESTIGATE IT!
SASA-ZUKA!
P-PLEASE WAIT!
ARE YOU PAID FOR MAKING MISTAKES?
LET ME ASK THEM WHAT REALLY HAPPENED!
YOU'RE BUSY RIGHT NOW, AREN'T YOU?

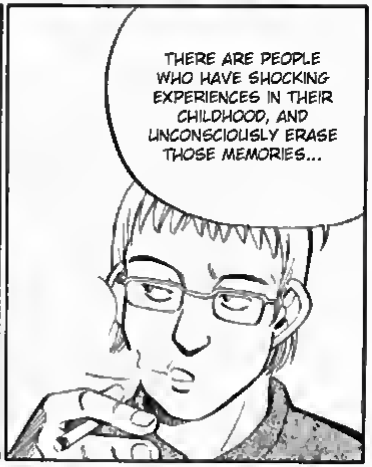
SEEMS LIKE THEY STILL LIKE TO TRAVEL AROUND.
THEY'RE STILL IN TOKYO,
THOUGH I SUPPOSE THEY WON'T KNOW ANYTHING...
THIS IS THE HOTEL'S ADDRESS.
I-IS THAT REALLY ALRIGHT?
NO HARM, NO FOUL, RIGHT?

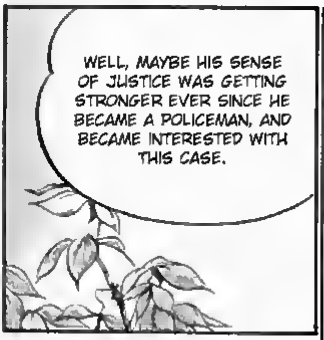
笹塚が
心中事件を
見たかもしれない？
HOTEL
そう
言われても
オレはなにも
……
でも
稲垣さん
絵本に描かれて
ますよね……
「1羽の鳥は
怖い目にあって
都会に行った」
……って
これ 笹塚さんを
指してますよね
だったらどんな
怖い目にあったか
知ってるんじゃ……

YOU DON'T KNOW?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT REALLY HAPPENED.
AT THE TIME, SASAZUKA SUDDENLY WANTED TO LEAVE THAT SECRET BASE....
WELL, I TRIED TO PORTRAY IT.
BECAUSE I REALIZED THAT FEAR..
HE NEVER CAME BACK TO THAT PLACE EVER SINCE.
TOO BAD, BUT I REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

ISN'T IT BETTER IF HE ENDED UP NOT REMEMBERING ANYTHING?

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL AN INSTINCT OF SELF-DEFENSE.

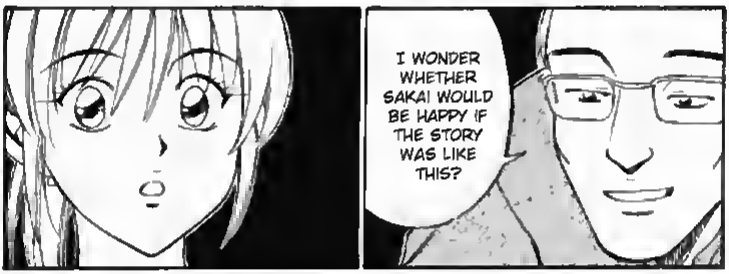

THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO HAVE SHOCKING EXPERIENCES IN THEIR CHILDHOOD, AND UNCONSCIOUSLY ERASE THOSE MEMORIES...


WELL, MAYBE HIS SENSE OF JUSTICE WAS GETTING STRONGER EVER SINCE HE BECAME A POLICEMAN, AND BECAME INTERESTED WITH THIS CASE.

MAYBE HE SAW A THING THAT REALLY FRIGHTENED HIM,
SO MUCH THAT HE DECIDED TO LEAVE HIS HOMETOWN.

ISN'T IT BETTER IF WE JUST LEFT HIM BE?
WHY DON'T YOU STAY IN ONE PLACE?
IT SEEMS YOU ARE A BIT NOMADIC, AREN'T YOU, INAGAKI-SAN?
HOW DO I EXPLAIN IT...
THAT'S...
SO YOU'RE CONTENT WITH MOVING FROM ONE PLACE TO TO ANOTHER?
AT LEAST I'M THE SAME AS SASAZUKA, I DON'T REALLY WANT TO STAY IN TOKYO...

NOT REALLY...
WHERE I STAY IS NOT THE PROBLEM....
IF I COULD, I WOULD GO BACK TO MY HOMETOWN...


I WONDER WHETHER SAKAI WOULD BE HAPPY IF THE STORY WAS LIKE THIS?

ASAKUSA

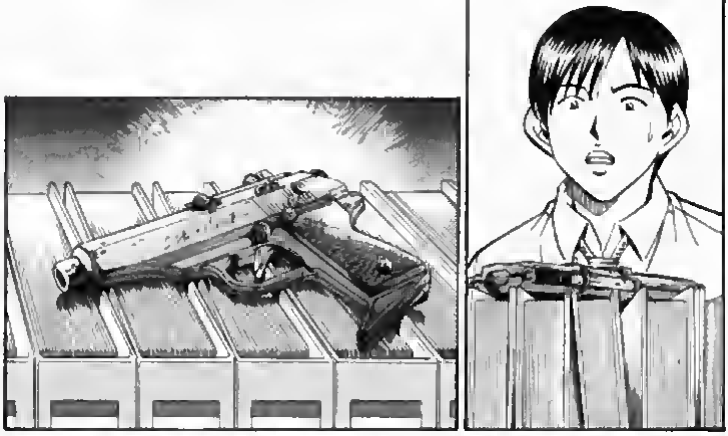
I'VE SEEN INAGAKI'S PICTURE BOOK!
DAMN IT! HE MADE IT LIKE I WAS BORED OF LIVING ALONE IN THE VILLAGE.
I LIVE IN MY HOMETOWN BECAUSE I LOVE IT.
HE'S MOCKING ME!
THERE'S NO WAY PEOPLE LIKE HIM WOULD UNDERSTAND!
I'M SORRY, IT'S ABOUT DETECTIVE SASAZUKA..
BEATS ME!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT HE SAW...
BUT...

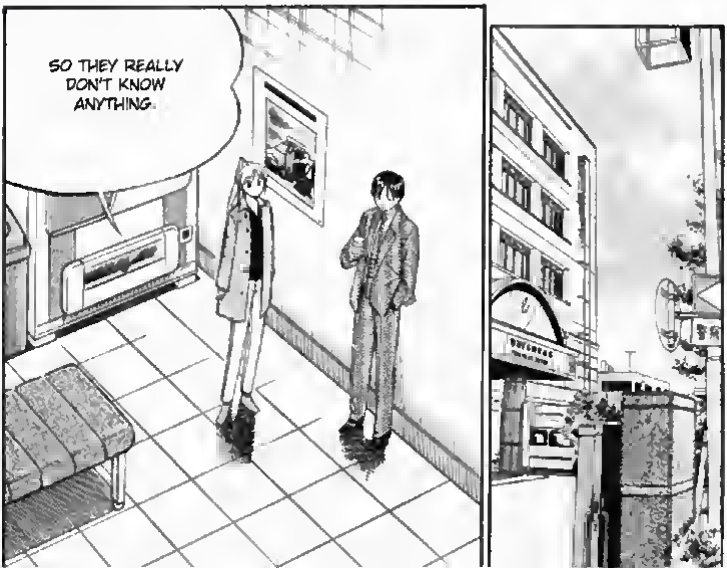
SINCE THEN, THE THREE OF US...
NEVER WENT BACK TO THAT PLACE FOR SOME REASON...
...
HMM...
MAYBE I SHOULD BUY SOUVENIRS FROM HERE?
SUCH A STRANGE STORY.
FOR A LONG TIME, SASAZUKA LOVED TO WATCH POLICE DRAMAS AND PLAY WITH THAT TOY GUN OF HIS...
AND THEN HE LEFT HIS HOMETOWN BEHIND...
TO JOIN THE POLICE.

BY HIS CHILDHOOD MEMORIES HE HAD ALREADY ERASED...
BUT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS PULLED BACK...
FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME WHO HAS NEVER LEFT HIS HOMETOWN,
THAT KIND OF STORY MAKES NO SENSE
.....
IF IT WERE ME, I WOULD DO SOMETHING.

DON'T!
OI!!
MY VOICE... WON'T COME OUT!!
I CAN'T MOVE MY BODY EITHER!

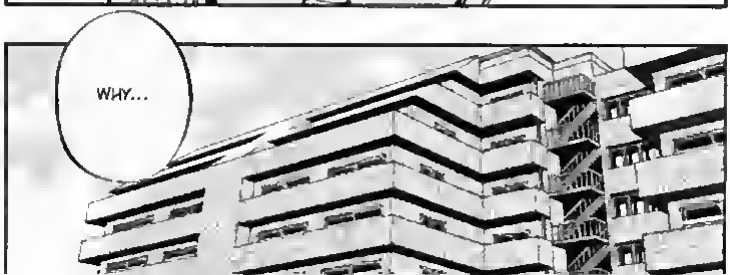
AAAAAHHHH!!!




SO THEY REALLY DON'T KNOW ANYTHING.

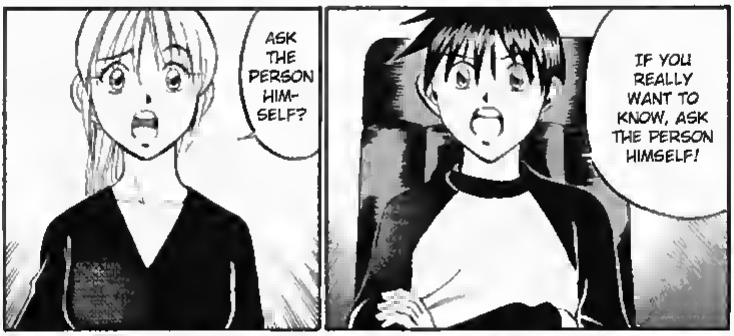
IN THE END, I THINK I DID END UP WITNESSING THAT DOUBLE SUICIDE.
BECAUSE I WAS SHOCKED, I'VE NEVER GONE TO THAT TREE ANYMORE.
IT MUST HAVE BEEN THE REASON WHY I DIDN'T GO BACK TO OUR SECRET BASE.
I WENT TO TOKYO BECAUSE I DREAMED OF JOINING THE POLICE FROM WHEN I WAS CHILD.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR HELP...
BUT ALL I COULD SEE WERE THE SAME PEOPLE WHO DIED, AND ME, WHO WASN'T ABLE TO CATCH OR STOP THEM,
WHAT'S MORE, I ERASED IT FROM MY MEMORIES,

I DON'T DESERVE TO CALL MYSELF A POLICEMAN.


WHY...

IS THERE NO END TO THIS..
NEXT TIME, I WANT YOU TO CONTINUE THE INVESTIGATION!
CAN'T BE HELPED, CAN IT?! IF YOU'D LISTENED TO THE STORY, YOU WOULD HAVE DONE THE SAME!
BUT... HOW COULD I KNOW WHAT HAPPENED AROUND THAT TREE?

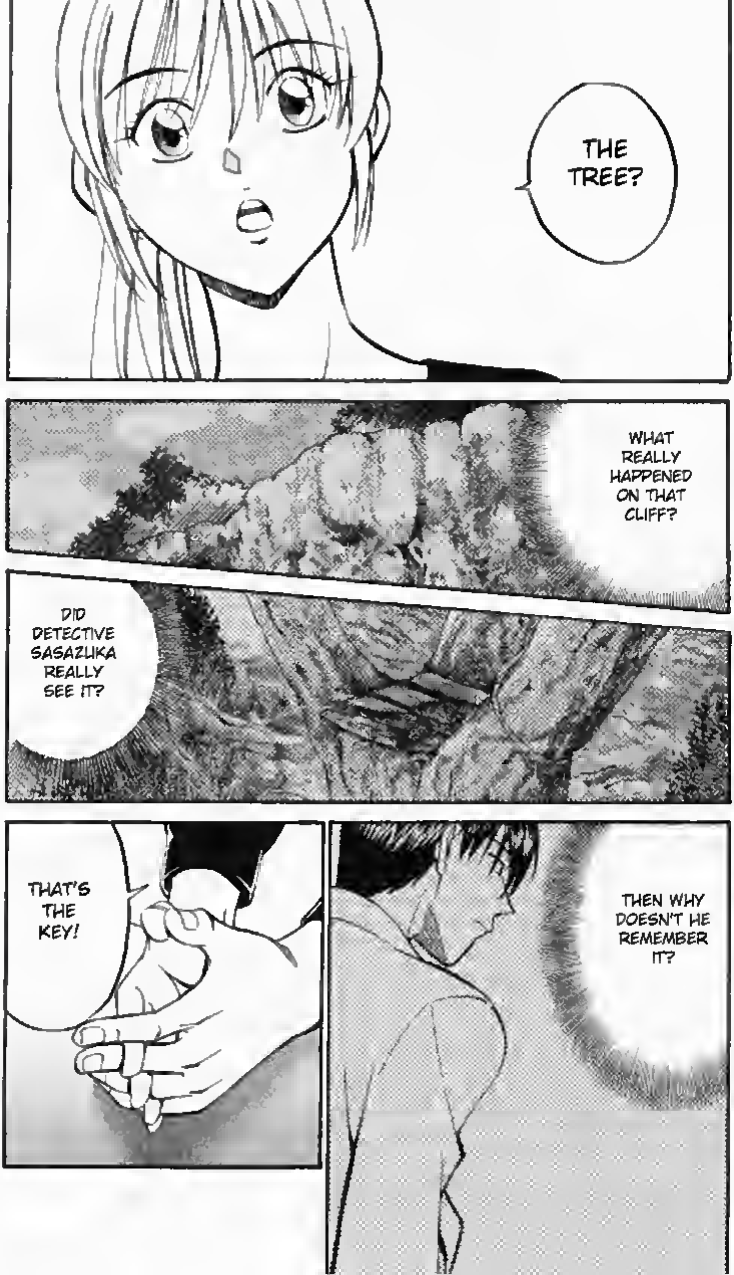
I CAN'T HELP IT! I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING!
YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT!

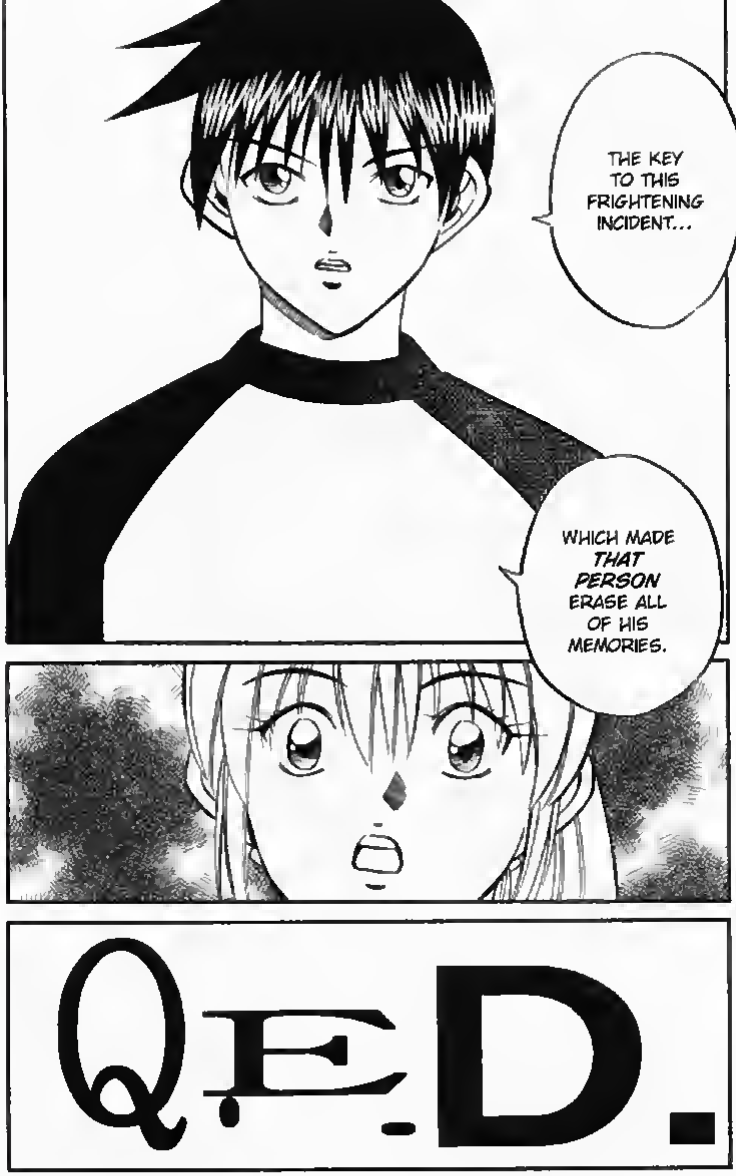

ASK THE PERSON HIM-SELF?
IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW, ASK THE PERSON HIMSELF!

AND HOW EVERYTHING BECAME CHAOS...

THE MOST CONFUSING THING IN THIS PROBLEM IS...
THE DIFFERENCE IN THEIR HAZY MEMORIES...

THE TREE.
THE MAIN POINT IS...


THE TREE?
WHAT REALLY HAPPENED ON THAT CLIFF?
DID DETECTIVE SASAZUKA REALLY SEE IT?
THAT'S THE KEY!
THEN WHY DOESN'T HE REMEMBER IT?


THE KEY TO THIS FRIGHTENING INCIDENT...
WHICH MADE *THAT PERSON* ERASE ALL OF HIS MEMORIES.
Q.E.D.

HOTEL
RECE

HELLO ...
THIS ...
TODAY YOU'RE PLANNING TO GO BACK, AREN'T YOU?
THANK GOODNESS I'M NOT LATE.
I INTEND TO RETURN THIS TO YOU.

FLIP
THIS DOESN'T BELONG TO ME!
BECAUSE I COULDN'T AFFORD TO BUY IT,
I BORROWED IT FROM YOU.
AND, THE ONE WHO FIRED THE GUN ON THAT DAY WASN'T ME...

BUT YOU,
INAGAKI.

SO . YOU'VE REMEMBERED ALREADY?
ALL OF IT...
I DIDN'T SEE ANYTHING.
BECAUSE YOU GOT SCARED, YOU DIDN'T WANT TO GO BACK TO THAT TREE.
YOU ARE THE ONE WHO SAW THAT DOUBLE SUICIDE.
BECAUSE YOU DIDN'T COME TO PLAY AT THAT TREE ANYMORE...
IT'S NOT STRANGE THAT THE MEMORIES OF THE TREE SLOWLY VANISHED.

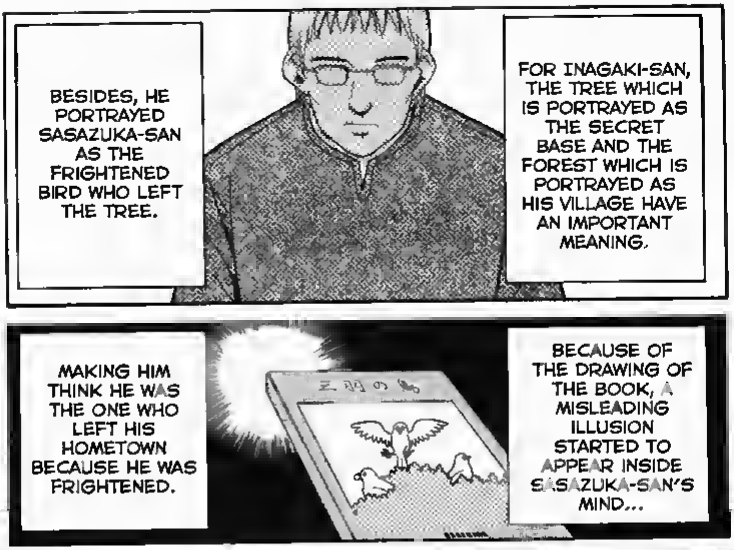
THEN...
YOU LEFT THE VILLAGE TO ERASE THOSE MEMORIES...
AND, YOU CHOSE ME...
BECAUSE YOU COULDN'T GO BACK AS LONG AS YOU REMEMBERED THAT INCIDENT...
YOU FORCED YOUR MEMORIES ONTO OTHER PEOPLE.
YOU CAREFULLY DIRECTED ME...
SO THAT IT LOOKED LIKE I WAS THE ONE WHO HAD THE TOY GUN AND PORTRAYED ME AS THE FRIGHTENED BIRD IN THAT PICTURE BOOK.
WHY?

MAYBE YOU WERE SHOCKED TO SEE THEM COMMIT SUICIDE...
BUT ARE YOU GOING TO BE LIKE THIS FOREVER?
ISN'T IT BETTER TO TELL THIS TO THE POLICE?
INAGAKI!
I DIDN'T SEE THEM COMMIT SUICIDE..
WHAT I SAW...

WAS MUCH MORE TERRIFYING!!

THERE ARE SOME ODD POINTS IN INAGAKI-SAN'S BOOK.
THE BIRD WHO WENT TO ANOTHER FOREST BECAUSE HE FOUND DELICIOUS FRUITS...
THE THREE BIRDS ARE PORTRAYED AS SASAZUKA-SAN, INAGAKI-SAN, AND SAKAI-SAN.
IS SASAZU-KA-SAN.
THE BIRD WHO WAS FRIGHTENED BECAUSE HE WAS CHASED BY A FOX...
IS INAGAKI-SAN.

THEN... THE TREE AND THE FOREST ARE PORTRAYED AS TOKYO AND THEIR HOMETOWN.
WHY DID INAGAKI-SAN DRAW THE TIME WHEN THEY WERE LIVING IN THE VILLAGE?
BUT ACCORDING TO INAGAKI-SAN'S AND SAKAI-SAN'S TESTIMONIES,
HE SHOULDN'T HAVE BEEN FEELING FRIGHTENED AT THAT TIME.
SASAZUKA-SAN WENT TO TOKYO BECAUSE HE WANTED TO JOIN THE POLICE.
SO WHY IS THERE CHAOS?
IT'S ALL CONNECTED WITH THE TREE.


BESIDES, HE PORTRAYED SASAZUKA-SAN AS THE FRIGHTENED BIRD WHO LEFT THE TREE.
FOR INAGAKI-SAN, THE TREE WHICH IS PORTRAYED AS THE SECRET BASE AND THE FOREST WHICH IS PORTRAYED AS HIS VILLAGE HAVE AN IMPORTANT MEANING.
MAKING HIM THINK HE WAS THE ONE WHO LEFT HIS HOMETOWN BECAUSE HE WAS FRIGHTENED.
BECAUSE OF THE DRAWING OF THE BOOK, A MISLEADING ILLUSION STARTED TO APPEAR INSIDE SASAZUKA-SAN'S MIND...
AND THE DECIDING FACTOR IS...
THEN... IF I COULD, I WOULD GO BACK TO MY HOMETOWN.
WHERE I STAY IS NOT THE PROBLEM,
FINDING OTHER TREES WITH DELICIOUS FRUITS,
ACTUALLY, INAGAKI-SAN'S TESTIMONY HAS MANY INCONSISTENCIES.

SO MUCH THAT HE DECIDED TO LEAVE HIS HOMETOWN.
MAYBE HE SAW SOMETHING THAT REALLY FRIGHTENED HIM,
A FRIGHTENING INCIDENT THAT MADE HIM LEAVE HIS HOMETOWN.
AND WHY DID INAGAKI-SAN CALL IT A FRIGHTENING INCIDENT, ANYWAY?
THE FRIGHTENING INCIDENT WHICH SASAZUKA-SAN SAW SHOULD HAVE BEEN SOMETHING THAT MADE HIM NOT WANT TO GO BACK TO THEIR SECRET BASE,
BUT ALL OF A SUDDEN, IT CHANGED TO SOMETHING THAT MADE HIM NOT WANT TO GO BACK TO HIS HOMETOWN.
IT'S EASY IF WE CHANGE THE POSITION OF THOSE TWO BIRDS.

AND AS FOR THE SECOND BIRD THAT FELT SO FRIGHTENED HE DECIDED TO GO TO ANOTHER FOREST...
THE FIRST BIRD THAT WENT TO THE CITY BECAUSE HE FOUND DELICIOUS FRUITS CAN BE INTERPRETED AS "WANTED TO JOIN THE POLICE".
THAT SCARED HIM SO MUCH, HE CAN'T GO BACK TO HIS HOMETOWN.
INAGAKI-SAN IS THE ONE WHO REALLY SAW THAT FRIGHTENING INCIDENT,
BUT...THERE'S ONE PERSON WHO SAW IT.
THE MYSTERIOUS DOUBLE SUICIDE WHICH HAD NEVER BEEN REPORTED IS THAT FRIGHTENING INCIDENT...
"IF I COULD, I WOULD GO BACK..."
HE SAID,

THE ONE AND ONLY WITNESS... INAGAKI-SAN.
WHAT DID YOU ACTUALLY SEE?

THAT TIME I WAS PLAYING IN THE SECRET BASE...
HUH?
I SAW THEM BEHIND THE TREES.

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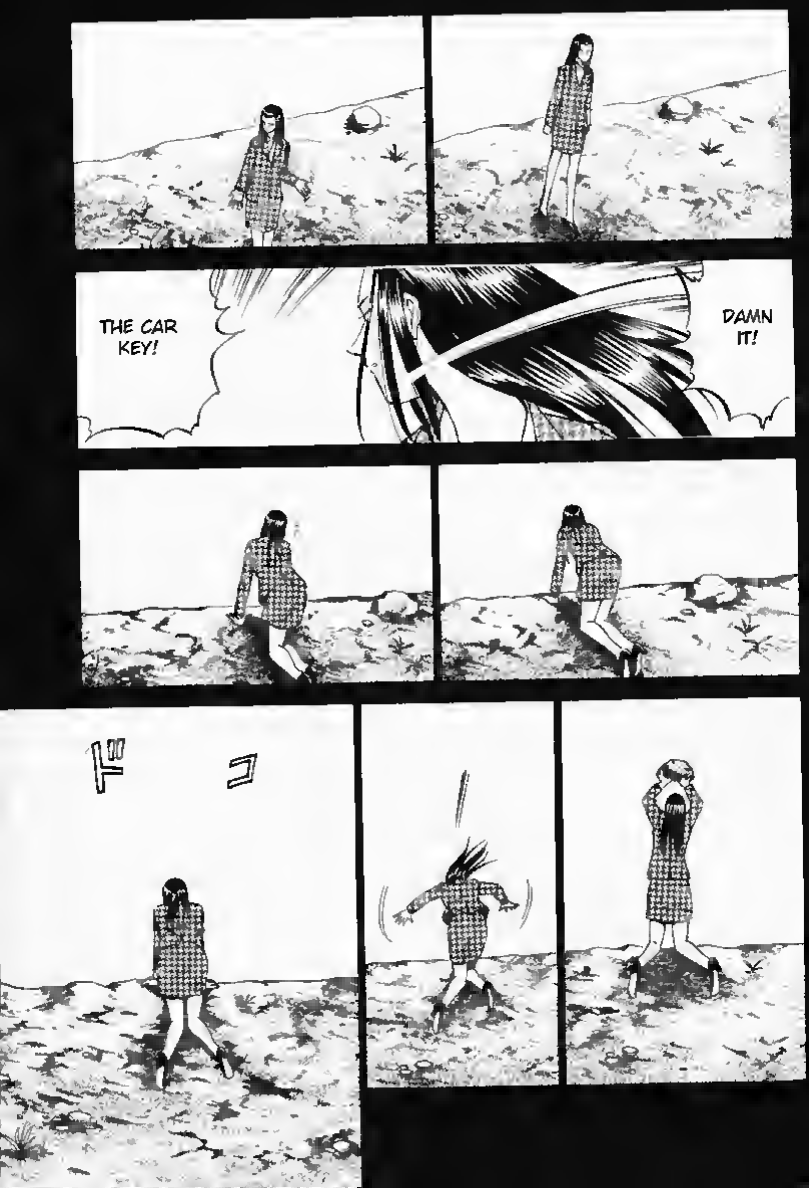
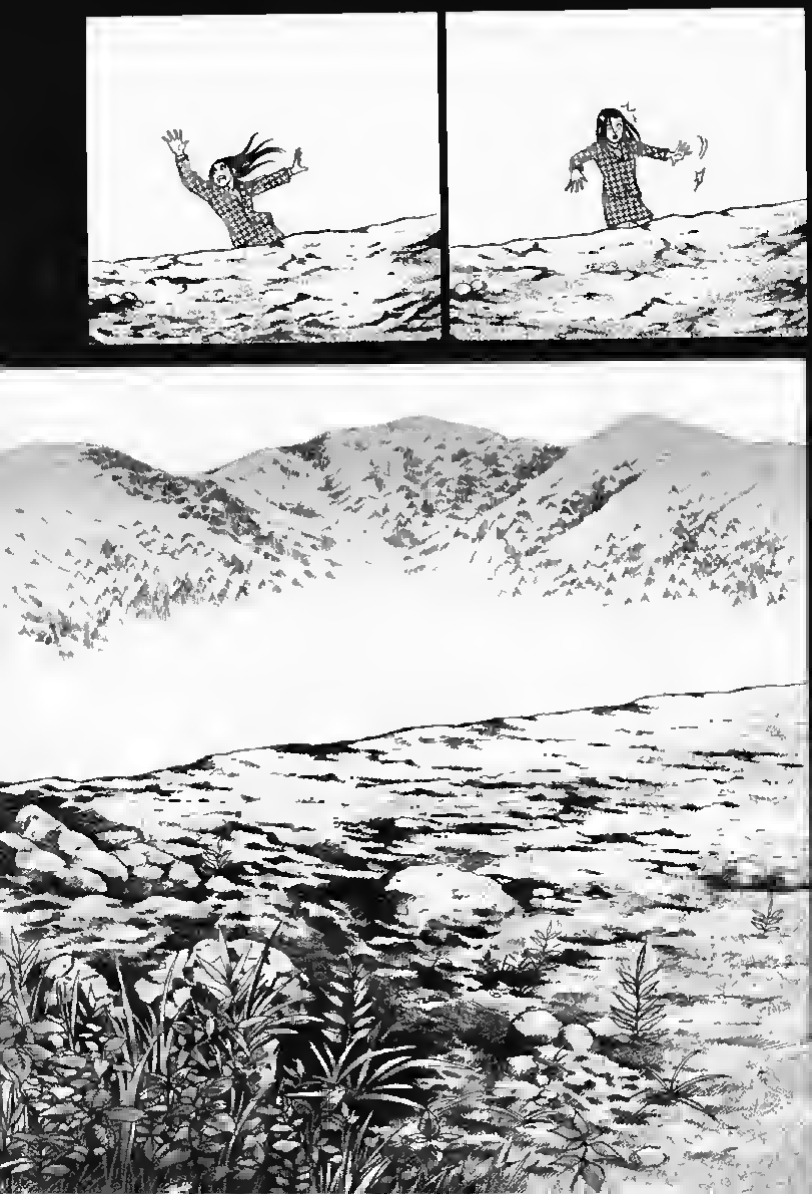
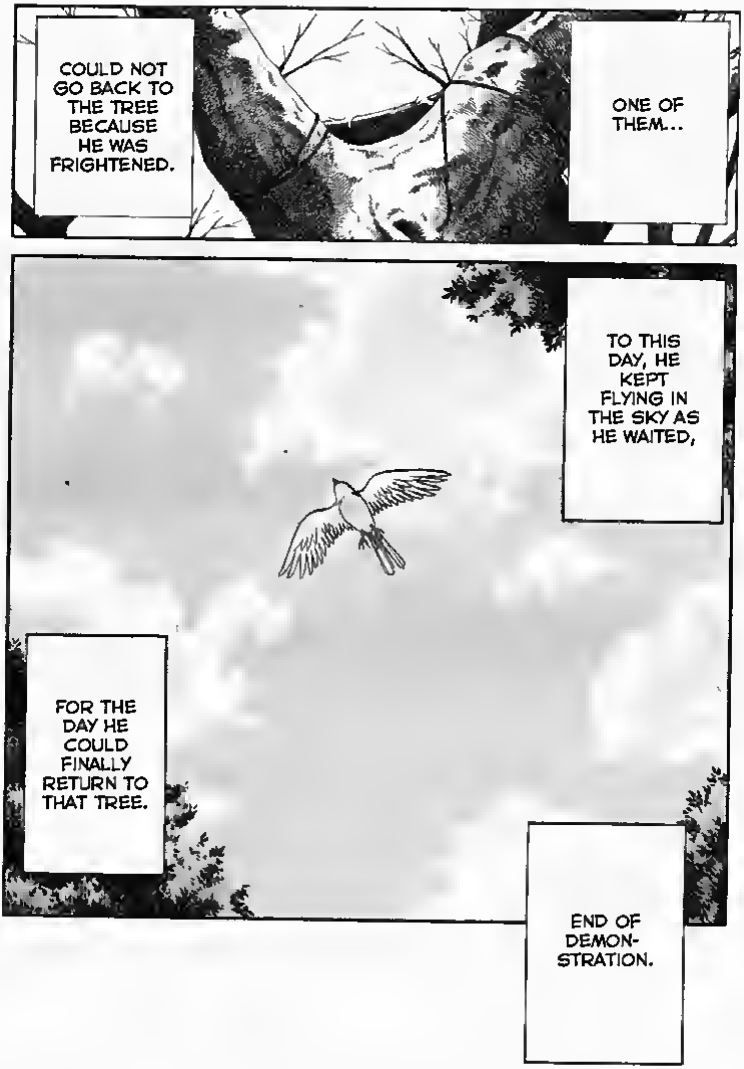

THE CAR KEY!
DAMN IT!
ドコ

THAT TIME, I DIDN'T KNOW WHY...
I WANTED TO TELL HER I WAS HERE....
I WANTED TO TELL HER... THAT I'D SEEN WHAT SHE'D DONE!!



AND THE WOUND ON THE FORE-HEAD!
THE GREAT AMOUNT ON THE INSURANCE CLAIM...
ALL OF IT WAS TAKEUCHI-SAN'S DOING, WHO WAS INDEED AIMING FOR THE TERADA FAMILY'S WEALTH!
INAGAKI WAS THE ONE WHO BURIED IT IN HIM...
ALL THIS TIME...

ONE DAY...
PLEASE RETURN THIS TOY GUN BACK TO THE TREE HOLE...
INAGAKI,
WITH YOUR OWN HANDS,
I WILL GO WITH YOU.
THERE WERE THREE BIRDS...


COULD NOT GO BACK TO THE TREE BECAUSE HE WAS FRIGHTENED.
ONE OF THEM...
TO THIS DAY, HE KEPT FLYING IN THE SKY AS HE WAITED,
FOR THE DAY HE COULD FINALLY RETURN TO THAT TREE.
END OF DEMON-STRATION.

THREE BIRDS - END

●名探偵"達"登場！‥マガジンＧＲＥＡＴ 2004年1月号掲載
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IGNITION
SEQUENCE
START...
A BOY MEETS
ROCKET
MAN

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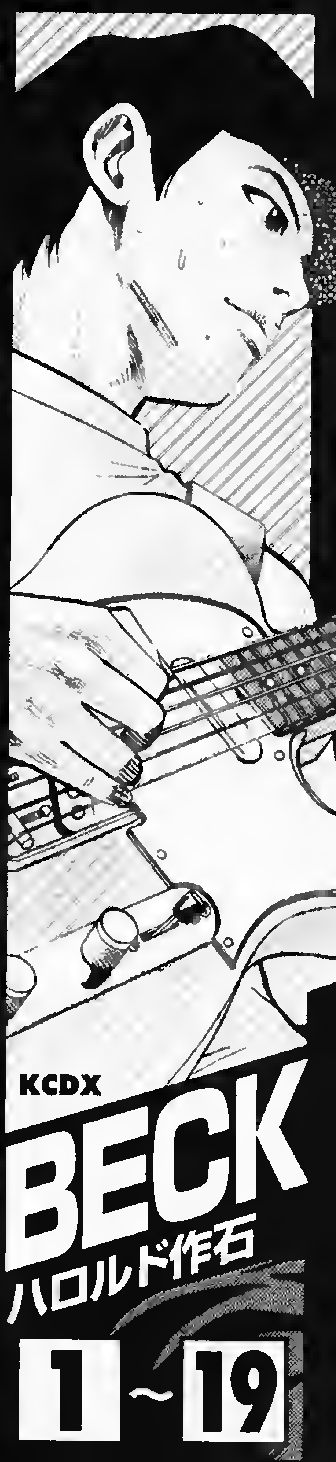

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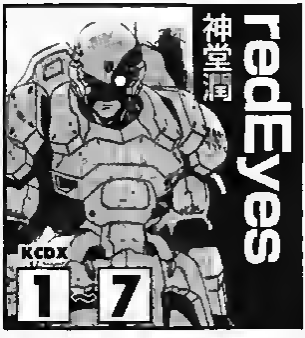

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前川たけし「鉄拳チンミ」……全⑩巻
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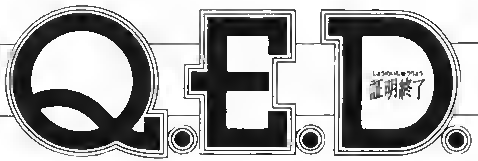

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BUT NOW, THE TIME HAS COME AGAIN WHERE WE'RE FACING A SLIGHT SHORTAGE IN MEMBERS IN CERTAIN AREAS OF EXPERTISE. SO IF YOU'RE WILLING TO HELP US, PLEASE GO THROUGH THE TABLE BELOW AND GIVE US A HOLLER AT EITHER OUR GROUP PAGE, ***IRREGULAR SCANS*** AT BATO.TO OR JUST DROP US A MAIL AT ***HIGHSCHOOLDETECTIVE@YAHOO.FR***

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